BUXAR CANAL SYSTEM.

LENGTH OF CANAL OPEN, 67 MILES.

Number of boats or rafts.	Description.	Total Government and Private. Quantity—Tons. Up.	Down.	Total.	Value. Rupees.	Private. Quantity. Tons.	Value. Rupees.	Remarks.
1	1. Grain ...	1	.....	1	96	1	96	
.....	2. Cotton ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
.....	3. Oilseeds ...	1	1	2	431	2	431	
.....	4. Salt ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
.....	5. Piece-goods ...	1	.....	1	2,300	1	2,300	
.....	6. Metal ...	1	1	2	5,474	2	5,474	
36	7. Building materials	14	390	404	15,107	.....	.....	
18	8. Miscellaneous ...	11	200	211	38,687	211	38,687	
...	9. Fuel ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	
Rafts	10. Timber ...	.....	586	586	7,213	586	7,213	
	11. Bamboos ...	.....	122	122	2,196	122	2,196	
55	12. Total ...	29	1,300	1,329	71,504	925	56,397	
130	13. Total of same month last year.	156	2,014	2,170	1,27,793	1,385	1,01,331	

	Up.	Down.	Total.
14. Total number of boats plying cargo No.	3	52	55
15. Total number of boats plying passenger No.	8	8	16
15½. Total number of empty boats No.	47	5	52
16. Total registered tonnage, cargo Tons.	37	1,493	1,530
17. Total registered tonnage, passenger Tons.	216	216	432
17½. Total registered tonnage, empty Tons.	172	19	191
18. Ton-mileage ...	7,308	29,265	36,573
19. Estimated value of cargo Rs.	6,180	55,915	62,095
20. Number of passengers ...	564½	523	1,087½
21. Rafts, bamboos c. ft.	.....	18,339	18,339
22. Do., bullahs "	.....	43,994	43,994
23. Estimated value of rafts Rs.	.....	9,409	9,409
24. Tollage on boats "	51-5-0	181-5-0	232-10-0
25. Compounded tollage on boats Rs.	75-0-0	107-0-0	182-0-0
26. Tollage on rafts "	.....	412-4-9	412-4-9
27. Total tollage on boats per ton-mile ...	.....	.....	0-0-2·17
28. Total tollage on rafts per 100 cubic feet Rs.	.....	.....	0-10-7

	Rs. A. P.
Total tollage of month—24 + 25 + 26 ...	826 14 9
Total tollage of same month last year ...	1,077 5 2

Memorandum of Tollage.

	Rs. A. P.
1. Balance not recovered on the 1st of the month ...	12 12 9
2. Tollage per month ...	826 14 9
3. Total ...	839 11 6
4. Amount credited in the accounts of the month ...	825 3 3
5. Balance due at the end of the month ...	14 8 3

ABSTRACT FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1888, AS COMPARED WITH THE CORRESPONDING MONTH OF THE PREVIOUS YEAR.

Canal.	Traffic, 1887-88.		Traffic, 1886-87.		Remarks.
	During the month.	To end of the month.	During the month.	To end of the month.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Orissa Circle.					
Taldanda Canal System ...	1,028 8 6	5,797 3 3	559 8 2	2,298 7 6	
Kendrapara Canal System	5,891 14 1	41,973 0 3	4,769 10 8	35,257 2 8	
High Level, Range I ...	1,070 7 2	7,406 0 8	902 8 0	6,577 6 6	
Ditto, „ II ...	395 3 3	3,319 13 6	390 5 6	3,097 8 0	
Ditto, „ III ...	85 14 9	985 12 9	165 2 3	1,820 1 9	
Total Orissa Circle ...	8,471 15 0	59,481 14 5	6,787 2 7	49,060 10 5	
South-Western Circle.					
Midnapore Canal ...	11,211 13 3	1,12,213 6 0	9,404 14 9	1,00,433 3 6	
Hidgellee Tidal Canal ...	.....	40,046 14 0	3,031 7 9	46,222 9 9	
Total South-Western Circle	11,211 13 3	1,52,260 4 0	12,436 6 6	1,46,655 13 3	
Sone Circle.					
Patna Canal System ...	2,221 9 0	23,770 14 7	1,596 1 7	20,108 12 7	
Arrah ditto ...	1,108 8 0	13,741 15 0	1,156 2 3	16,506 2 7	
Buxar ditto ...	826 14 9	7,052 7 8	1,077 5 2	7,856 1 9	
Total Sone Circle ...	4,156 15 9	44,565 5 3	3,829 9 0	44,471 0 11	
Grand Total ...	23,840 12 9	2,56,307 7 8	23,053 2 1	2,40,187 8 7	

GOVERNMENT TRANSPORT SERVICE.

Canal.	Traffic, 1887-88.						Traffic, 1886-87.					
	During the month.			To end of the month.			During the month.			To end of the month.		
	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.	Passengers.	Goods.	Total receipts.
Orissa Circle.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.	No.	Mds.	Rs. A. P.
High Level	175	777	247 4 6	3,063	5,484	4,031 11 9	222	794	279 11 1	7,170	13,451	8,020 11 6
Total Orissa Circle ...	175	777	247 4 6	3,063	5,484	4,031 11 9	222	794	279 11 4	7,170	13,451	8,020 11 6

TOTAL NAVIGATION RECEIPTS.

Canal.	Earnings, 1887-88.		Earnings, 1886-87.		Remarks.
	During the month.	To end of the month.	During the month.	To end of the month.	
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
Orissa Canals	8,719 4 3	63,513 10 2	7,057 13 11	57,081 5 11	
Midnapore Canal ...	11,211 13 3	1,12,213 6 0	9,404 14 9	1,00,433 3 6	
Hidgellee Tidal Canal ...	.....	40,046 14 0	3,031 7 9	46,222 9 9	
Sone Canals	4,156 15 9	44,565 5 3	3,829 9 0	44,471 0 11	
Total ...	24,088 1 3	2,60,339 3 5	23,323 13 5	2,48,208 4 1	

A. D. McArthur, Major, R.E.,
Under-Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Calcutta,
The 11th April 1888.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 14th April 1888, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

Nature of Cargo.	Week ending Saturday, the 14th April 1888.			Week ending Saturday, the 16th April 1887.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tolloge.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tolloge.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	601	1,56,697	2,823	319	1,00,190	1,703
Jute	19	10,225	256	18	7,150	123
Firewood	166	85,750	1,281	166	87,360	1,374
Other articles	723	1,78,135	2,707	573	1,47,777	2,277
Total ...	1,412	4,36,807	7,067	1,076	3,42,777	5,476

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Statement of Goods Traffic in Staples carried during the 4 weeks ended 25th February 1888, as compared with the same period of 1887.

Staples.		1888.		1887.		Increase.		Decrease.	
		Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freight.	Weight.	Freights.
		Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.	Mds.	Rs.
Animals, living.	Horses, ponies, and mules	No. 490	10,161	No. 383	6,017	No. 107	3,241	.....	.....
	Cattle	" 49	1,014	" 47	1,013	" 2	1	.....	.....
	Sheep and goats	" 2,771	2,180	" 2,848	2,235	.....	.....	No. 77	115
	Other kinds	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Bones		6,150	4,703	9,203	7,580	.....	.....	3,007	2,877
Canes and rattans		.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Caoutchouc (Indian-rubber)		4	1	.....	.....	1	1	.....	.....
Chinese and Japanese wares		194	375	171	373	23	2	20	.....
Coal and coke, up		7,61,065	9,92,552	8,88,0[illegible]	9,98,292	[illegible]	1,7[illegible]	.....	.....
Ditto, down		25,10,953	3,42,716	21,24,3[illegible]	3,07,966	3,87,510	1,[illegible]	.....	.....
Cotton, raw		1,75,162	1,14,906	2,95,[illegible]	2,19,708	.....	.....	90,371	1,01,802
Cotton, manufactured.	Twist and yarn (European)	7,716	10,305	7,911	10,117	.....	.....	195	112
	Ditto (Indian)	12,259	7,198	15,891	8,382	.....	.....	1,562	984
	Piece-goods (European)	1,[illegible]	1,73,021	1,61,445	1,83,674	.....	.....	4,817	10,653
	Ditto (Indian)	18,[illegible]	13,371	18,7[illegible]	13,[illegible]	.....	.....	94	179
Drugs and medicines.	Asafœtida	626	301	801	319	.....	.....	175	18
	Other sorts, not intoxicating	1,264	2,211	1,501	2,069	433	2[illegible]	.....	.....
	Intoxicating drugs (other than opium, i.e., arsenic, bhang, ganja, and charas, &c.)	1,263	890	2,319	1,111	.....	.....	1,056	651
Dyeing materials.	Indigo	1,323	1,315	1,556	1,529	.....	.....	233	214
	Munjeet or manjit	28	18	13	13	.....	2	.....	.....
	Safflower	180	89	135	75	17	15	.....	.....
	Turmeric	9,681	7,354	10,691	11,[illegible]	.....	.....	1,010	1,0[illegible]
	Other kinds	20,397	8,[illegible]	26,[illegible]	10,514	.....	.....	325	1,5[illegible]
Earthenware and porcelain		518	1,208	597	1,184	21	24	.....	.....
Fibrous products.	Jute, raw	19,131	5,773	13,600	4,537	6,131	1,236	.....	.....
	Do., manufactured (gunny bags and cloths).	65,271	23,829	58,213	26,085	.....	.....	3,972	2,256
	Other fibres, raw	22,259	10,158	18,269	9,339	3,990	819	.....	.....
	Ditto, manufactured	2,765	1,014	3,187	1,120	.....	.....	422	106
Fruits & nuts	Cocoanuts	3,827	3,707	2,829	3,262	998	445	.....	.....
	All other kinds	69,315	35,107	51,882	27,720	18,434	8,298	.....	.....
Grain & pulses	Wheat	1,31,498	54,148	1,33,098	46,178	.....	.....	16,090	12,630
	Gram and pulses	3,63,122	78,524	3,03,472	66,314	259	18,210	.....	.....
	Rice, husked	9,89,089	2,80,761	10,81,370	2,82,931	.....	17,850	92,890	.....
	Do., unhusked	26,787	6,675	20,087	6,793	.....	.....	6,200	120
	Other rain and spring crops	3,61,811	71,501	2,18,481	33,041	1,46,330	38,260	.....	.....
Government stores		12,695	10,241	17,410	27,849	.....	.....	4,805	17,608
Guns and rifles		4,211	2,228	4,612	2,366	199	.....	.....	138
Hides & skins	Hides of cattle	91,530	61,623	61,478	61,028	.....	3,495	2,948	.....
	Skins of sheep, goats, and small animals.	14,775	6,065	8,593	5,084	6,182	2,071	.....	.....
Horns		1,112	412	895	415	217	.....	.....	3
Lac	Lac dye	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Do. shell	23,701	16,234	22,857	15,123	844	811	.....	.....
	Do. stick and other kinds	28,161	7,751	31,182	8,423	.....	.....	2,681	672
Leather	Leather, unmanufactured	2,012	4,026	1,541	3,234	471	792	.....	.....
	Ditto, manufactured	3,149	5,110	2,731	4,032	418	1,078	.....	.....
Liquors		15,314	12,912	13,808	13,801	.....	.....	1,654	889
Mats		399	176	241	101	158	75	.....	.....
Minerals		1,35,488	19,421	[illegible]	13,6[illegible]	[illegible]	5,7[illegible]	.....	.....
Metals and manufactures of	Brass and copper	24,221	14,250	29,317	20,041	.....	.....	15,096	13,784
	Iron	1,08,651	54,139	83,196	48,[illegible]	25,455	5,[illegible]	.....	.....
	Other metals	7,701	6,705	7,530	6,[illegible]	171	[illegible]	.....	.....
Oils		42,568	36,215	26,229	8,174	42,178	27,[illegible]	.....	.....
Opium		30,641	30,691	46,570	64,121	.....	.....	15,[illegible]	34,430
Paints and colours		131	1,007	1,727	1,784	.....	.....	1,[illegible]	777
Provisions	Ghee	21,864	25,785	26,062	21,278	.....	5,507	4,[illegible]	.....
	Other kinds	6,921	6,648	6,822	6,731	99	.....	.....	243
Railway materials, Construction Account		3,25,119	3,321	1,99,060	5,210	.....	.....	2[illegible]	1,[illegible]
Ditto ditto, Foreign		3,13,491	1,79,413	3,71,020	1,90,[illegible]	.....	.....	57,529	10,976
Salt		4,82,608	1,02,380	4,01,674	92,950	.....	10,[illegible]	8,007	.....
Saltpetre, &c.	Saltpetre	59,735	28,987	56,404	26,282	3,[illegible]	2,[illegible]	.....	.....
	Other saline substances	16,831	3,358	11,283	2,275	5,548	1,[illegible]	.....	.....
Seeds. Oil-seeds.	Linseed	2,26,528	74,693	91,858	33,218	1,34,670	41,[illegible]	.....	.....
	Mustard and rape	2,47,702	70,394	2,04,252	56,374	43,510	13,[illegible]	.....	.....
	Til or gingelly	38,821	10,968	43,524	17,118	.....	.....	24,703	2,780
	Other oilseeds	40,851	12,341	94,687	30,121	.....	.....	53,836	17,780
Seeds. Other seeds.	Indigo seed	1,12,582	43,781	1,32,844	44,911	10,960	2,170	.....	.....
	Tea seed	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	Other kinds	23,693	6,304	38,795	9,264	.....	.....	10,[illegible]	3,460
Silk	Silk, raw	2,670	1,861	2,319	1,558	327	303	.....	.....
	Do., manufactured (European)	36	138	41	139	.....	.....	5	7
	Do., ditto (Indian)	404	814	789	910	.....	.....	385	96
Spices		29,971	22,335	13,831	14,166	16,167	7,[illegible]	.....	.....
Stone and marble		1,34,798	14,294	1,16,699	17,110	[illegible]	2,[illegible]	301	.....
Sugar	Sugar, refined	1,34,583	36,337	1,32,196	34,093	2,389	2,674	.....	.....
	Do., unrefined	5,50,853	88,146	4,40,095	91,293	1,10,758	.....	.....	3,150
Tea	Tea, Indian	454	2,122	1,356	1,719	.....	373	1,109	.....
	Do., Foreign	1,913	71	1,698	59	215	12	.....	.....
Tobacco		18,425	7,314	14,884	6,402	3,541	912	.....	.....
Wood	Timber	28,060	7,901	35,565	8,219	.....	.....	10,574	1,318
	Firewood	59,717	4,650	75,549	5,804	.....	.....	15,752	1,774
Wool	Wool, raw	2,548	3,262	2,097	3,293	451	769	.....	.....
	Do., manufactured (European).	187	500	210	689	.....	.....	23	69
	Wool, manufactured (Indian)	1,293	1,170	1,119	1,435	.....	.....	137	239
	Shawls	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
All other articles of merchandise		3,37,697	1,69,395	2,57,195	1,66,135	80,402	1,[illegible]	.....	.....
	Total	99,93,040	27,19,690	80,92,744	25,93,407	11,26,259	2,78,072	4,93,163	2,51,959

General remarks on the fluctuation of principal staples carried over the East Indian Railway during month ended 25th February 1888.

INCREASES.

Coal and coke.—There was an increase in both the upward and downward traffic; that in the former is due to improved demand from the North Western and Bombay Baroda and Central India Railways, and the increase in the downward traffic is due to despatches for the Eastern Bengal State Railway over the Jubilee Bridge.

Fruits other kinds.—The increase was principally in betelnuts from Howrah, Sealdah and Digha Ghât.

Grain and pulses.—

Other rain and spring crops.—This was a continuation of the increase reported in previous months, and was due to scarcity of food-grains in the North-Western Provinces.

Rice (husked and unhusked).—There was a decrease in weight carried attended with an increase in the earnings, and this was due to the rice being carried long distances upwards this year, instead of, as in 1887, short distances downwards.

Minerals.—Due chiefly in lime from Raneegunge for the Kidderpore Dock works.

Iron.—This was chiefly in despatches from Howrah for the Government Telegraph Department, and in pig-iron from Barakar.

Oil.—The increase under this head was chiefly in kerosine oil from Howrah.

Salt.—The increases were in the despatches from Howrah and *viâ* Agra; from Howrah the increase is attributable to a heavy speculation in Calcutta on account of the increased duty imposed on salt.

Seeds.—The increases were chiefly in linseed, mustard and rape and indigo seed; the former was due to an active demand in Calcutta for export; that in mustard and rape seed to increased despatches from the Bengal and North Western Railway. The increase in indigo seed was chiefly in the despatches from Delhi.

Spices.—Chiefly in chillies from Mokameh and the Tirhoot State Railway to Howrah.

DECREASES.

Cotton.—Due to the same cause as given last month, viz. want of supplies.

Piece-goods, European.—The decrease was both from Howrah and *viâ* Jubbulpore, principally in the despatches to Cawnpore.

Turmeric.—Principally in despatches from Howrah.

Wheat.—There was very little export business, and the wheat carried during the month was principally for local consumption.

Government stores.—This was almost entirely in the despatches from Howrah.

Brass and copper.—Due to advanced prices during the month, which prevented business being done.

Opium.—Due to despatch of Government opium being postponed.

Railway material, Foreign.—The decrease was chiefly in despatches from *viâ* Jubbulpore; there was an increase in weight in the short lead traffic from Howrah, attended with a decrease in earnings.

Sugar and jaggree.—There was an increase in weight carried, with a decrease in earnings due to short lead traffic from the Oudh and Rohilkhund Railway.

N. ST. L. CARTER, *Traffic Manager.*

TRAFFIC MANAGER'S OFFICE, JAMALPUR, *the 13th April* 1888.

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 1,513¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	250,140	3,00,[illegible] 7 0	27,12,282 0	6,18,975 7 0	29,087 3 0	9,48,[illegible] 1 8	68,2032	100,039½	168,2431
Or per mile of railway	.....	291 5 4	.....	408 14 5	23 4 1	626 7 10	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	3,450,301	40,68,251 8 0	3,02,70,140 10	86,01,318 1 4	2,34,840 15 10	1,29,01,640 3 2	863,958	1,366,1101	2,220,1741
Total for 14 weeks ...	3,760,510	43,77,557 15 0	3,29,82,449 10	92,20,293 8 4	2,64,928 1 10	1,38,42,080 0 2	932,2012	1,466,168	2,398,4172
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	246,529½	2,01,240 4 11	26,37,068 0	6,78,241 4 0	12,230 0 6	9,89,749 9 11	67,879	112,885	180,764
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	191 11 10	.....	446 8 1	12 10 10	650 14 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	3,585,026½	42,87,184 10 1	3,79,23,502 20	95,40,182 1 0	2,02,033 7 11	1,40,10,022 8 0	965,223	1,568,132	2,533,355

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the East Indian Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 9th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
1,519	9,83,750	651	1,513¼	9,48,349	625	1,519	12,85,709	658	1,513¼	9,48,349	625	.....	3,37,361

PATNA-GYA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 57½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	18,232	7,350 11 0	47,930 10	2,784 8 0	42 4 0	10,184 7 0	1,819	873	2,692
Or per mile of railway	2264	128 8 2	838 30	48 10 11	0 13 8	178 8 10	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	107,408	1,08,842 1 0	4,40,164 20	26,871 14 0	636 14 0	1,38,330 13 0	24,010	7,448	31,458
Total for 14 weeks ...	219,088	1,16,192 12 0	4,88,133 30	31,656 6 0	679 2 0	1,48,515 4 0	25,833	8,023	33,856
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	13,300	7,114 1 0	1,01,484 10	6,525 3 0	65 3 0	11,704 7 8	1,533	918	2,451
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	231	124 5 0	1,775 30	79 1 0	1 2 3	204 10 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	206,471½	1,35,490 2 11	8,79,505 30	47,035 15 0	799 13 0	1,83,461 15 8	24,290	13,033	37,323

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Patna-Gya State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 9th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
57½	11,704	203	57½	10,184	178	57½	11,704	213	57½	10,184	178	.....	6,420

DILDARNAGAR-GHAZIPUR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 12 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	2,078	687 10 0	31,227 20	445 5 0	14 4 0	966 10 0	337½	150	487½
Or per mile of railway	.....	60 10 2	.....	38 12 0	1 2 8	80 8 10	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	38,709	6,474 7 0	2,82,335 0	5,967 3 0	149 3 0	12,590 15 0	4,401½	2,624	6,424½
Total for 14 weeks ...	41,587	6,962 1 0	3,04,622 20	6,412 3 0	163 8 0	13,557 7 0	4,739	2,770	6,909
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	3,157	534 1 0	18,882 25	409 7 0	11 0 3	954 9 11	538	368	906
For mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	44 8 2	.....	34 1 11	0 14 0	79 8 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	41,553½	6,034 3 0	2,83,076 0	6,030 11 0	112 4 0	14,027 2 0	4,793	2,185	6,973

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Dildarnagar-Ghazipur State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 8th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
12	955	80	12	967	81	18	1,217	70	12	967	81	.....	250

SINDIA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 74½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	4,094	3,888 15 0	31,084 30	3,970 9 0	125 0 0	7,986 8 0	734½	1,303	1,993½
Or per mile of railway	.....	52 9 3	.....	53 1 4	1 10 0	106 12 4	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	66,925	49,740 7 0	11,89,738 0	65,086 5 0	1,570 8 0	1,00,405 15 0	8,739½	20,411½	29,144½
Total for 14 weeks ...	71,019	53,640 6 0	12,20,819 30	69,056 14 0	1,695 8 0	1,14,392 7 0	9,474½	21,714½	31,187
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	3,566	4,624 3 2	95,883 30	5,709 5 0	105 7 4	6,434 15 6	787	1,093	1,880
For mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	60 7 9	.....	49 9 5	1 8 7	111 7 9	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	60,997	61,614 10 7	14,65,988 0	69,008 10 5	1,494 6 4	1,32,116 11 7	10,636	17,063	28,699

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Sindia State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 9th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
76½	8,320	111	74½	7,987	107	74½	13,602	115	74½	7,987	107	.....	3,615

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 22¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	30,227	8,702 11 0	10,352 0	409 7 6	7 9 0	9,129 11 0	893	70	[illegible]
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	391 7 2	.....	18 6 5	0 5 4	410 3 8	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	268,271	71,100 0 0	1,13,747 30	4,017 13 0	86 8 0	75,203 5 0	11,653	1,064	12,718
Total for 14 weeks ...	298,498	79,802 11 0	1,24,099 30	4,427 4 0	93 5 0	84,333 0 9	12,544	1,140	13,684
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	23,982½	7,865 1 1	10,105 0	386 10 0	7 8 0	8,261 4 1	946	46	1,012
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	354 7 11	.....	17 7 0	0 5 5	372 4 10	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	280,064	78,789 2 10	1,24,813 10	4,161 4 0	91 13 9	80,982 4 7	13,570	682	14,058

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Tarkessur Branch Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 9th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
22½	8,301	362	22½	9,127	410	22½	9,473	331	22½	9,127	410	.....	286

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(Including N. B., Dacca, K. and D., and Assam-Behar Sections.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 31st March 1888, on 676 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	133,972	76,161 0 0	9,96,989 0	94,525 0 0	23,905 0 0	1,88,631 0 0	27,017	22,540	44,717
Or per mile of railway	197	104 0 0	1,327 0	140 0 0	31 0 0*	285 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 12 weeks of half-year	1,655,582	9,09,795 0 0	65,34,257 0	9,06,220 0 0	1,74,231 0 0	20,80,013 0 0†	277,083	277,086	549,779
Total for 13 weeks ...	1,888,554	9,79,953 0 0	74,31,146 0	10,00,745 0 0	1,98,136 0 0	22,68,034 0 0	295,704	299,186	593,889
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year 6 days only	121,638	49,536 0 0	8,94,420 0	68,301 0 0	12,701 0 0	1,31,038 0 0	14,080	12,264	26,344
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	201	82 0 0	1,433 0	114 0 0	6 0 0†	202 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,805,500	8,53,880 0 0	75,03,641 0	10,57,811 0 0	1,00,083 0 0	20,80,003 0 0	275,487	290,900	566,387

* Audited up to 16th February 1888.
† Excluding steamer earnings.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Eastern Bengal State Railway.

Receipts for last 5 days of March 1887.			Receipts for week ending 31st March 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1886 to 31st March 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 31st March 1888.			Total increase in 1887-88.	Total decrease in 1887-88.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
661	1,81,[illegible]	818	670	1,88,851	279	646	83,83,701	266	648	96,07,325*	285	11,51,462	.....

* Audited up to 16th February 1888.

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 31st March 1888, on 125 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	32,088	9,723 0 0	80,124 0	5,000 0 0	80 0 0	14,877 0 0	3,537	1,962	5,479
Or per mile of railway	264	78 0 0	651 0	41 0 0	.....	119 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 12 weeks of half-year	307,366	1,12,262 0 0	6,10,570 0	47,348 0 0	2,057 0 0	1,62,437 0 0*	42,191	21,618	[illegible]
Total for 13 weeks ...	340,359	1,21,981 0 0	6,72,694 0	52,348 0 0	2,137 0 0	1,77,314 0 0	45,808	23,580	66,735
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding 5 days of previous year	21,307	6,238 0 0	39,009 0	2,250 0 0	29 0 0	8,517 0 0	2,390	1,374	3,670
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	171	50 0 0	312 0	18 0 0	.....	68 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	320,506	1,12,206 0 0	4,81,971 0	39,014 0 0	630 0 0	1,42,050 0 0	45,540	21,323	67,913

* Audited up to week ending 18th February 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Bengal Central Railway.

Receipts for last 5 days of March 1887.			Receipts for week ending 31st March 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1886 to 31st March 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 31st March 1888.			Total increase in 1887-88.	Total decrease in 1887-88.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
125	8,517	68	125	14,877	119	125	5,71,990	[illegible]	125	6,71,325*	107	99,425	.....

* Audited up to week ending 18th February 1888.

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 31st March 1888, on 86 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	10,090	4,074 0 0	42,749 0	775 0 0	300 0 0	5,215 0 0	2,141	963	3,104
Or per mile of railway	162	67 0 0	497 0	9 0 0	4 0 0	60 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 12 weeks of half-year	164,890	54,382 0 0	1,94,372 0	32,234 0 0	1,791 0 0	88,407 0 0*	25,187	31,407	56,594
Total for 13 weeks ...	177,028	58,456 0 0	2,37,110 0	33,009 0 0	2,137 0 0	74,612 0 0	27,328	32,370	59,698
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding 5 days of previous year	12,337	4,069 0 0	39,921 0	433 0 0	127 0 0	4,629 0 0	1,859	614	2,473
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	143	47 0 0	464 0	5 0 0	2 0 0	54 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	169,007	59,116 0 0	2,09,633 0	21,644 0 0	2,777 0 0	83,538 0 0	28,908	15,272	44,170

* Audited up to week ending 18th February 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Dacca State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 5th March 1887.			Receipts for week ending 31st March 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1886 to 31st March 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 31st March 1888.			Total increase in 1887-88.	Total decrease in 1887-88.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
86	4,629	54	86	5,215	60	86	[illegible]	41	86	5,00,784*	67	[illegible]	.....

* Audited up to week ending 18th February 1888.

ASSAM-BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

(PURNEAH SECTION.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 31st March 1888, on 39 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	3,516	815 0 0	30,657 0	2,198 0 0	10 0 0	3,505 0 0	548	540	1,088
Or per mile of railway	65	21 0 0	786 0	56 0 0	.....	90 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 12 weeks of half-year	35,054	12,203 0 0	2,70,563 0	28,511 0 0	421 0 0	36,195 0 0*	6,552	6,552	13,104
Total for 13 weeks ...	37,570	13,018 0 0	3,01,195 0	30,709 0 0	431 0 0	39,670 0 0	7,098	7,098	14,196
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding five days of previous year ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....

* Audited up to week ending 18th February 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Assam-Behar State Railway.

Receipts for last five days of March 1887.			Receipts for week ending 31st March 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1886 to 31st March 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 31st March 1888.			Total increase in 1887-88.	Total decrease in 1887-88.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
				Rs.	Rs.					Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
.....	.....	.....	39	3,505	90	.....	.....	.....	30	1,20,718*	69	1,20,708	.....

* Audited up to week ending 18th February 1888.

NALHATI STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 7th April 1888, on 27½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	2,783½	1,069 9 8	13,288 30	936 15 0	28 4 10	1,035 12 7	500	254	760
Or per mile of railway	102	37 11 0	488 0	34 3 0	1 0 0	72 14 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	43,391½	16,198 7 5	2,37,297 10	12,409 1 0	438 11 3	29,046 5 5	6,617	6,896½	13,513½
Total for 14 weeks ...	46,175	17,216 0 0	2,50,585 0	13,300 0 0	467 0 0	31,082 0 0	7,120	6,920½	14,040½
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	2,925½	1,143 6 5	11,200 20	705 8 0	14 2 0	1,868 1 5	500	254	760
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	104	43 2 0	421 0	25 14 0	0 8 0	69 8 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	43,346	16,204 3 11	2,45,939 10	11,231 4 11	425 2 4	27,920 11 2	7,198	6,225	13,423

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Nalhati State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 9th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
27½	[illegible]	60	27½	1,035	73	27½	1,868	69	27½	1,984	73	116	.....

TIRHOOT STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 7th April 1888, on 259 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Receipts per mile.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week on 259 miles open	41,414	15,196 14 6	1,81,415 0	55,409 1 6	2,768 1 2	33,339 0 3	6,004	5,376	11,380
Or per mile of railway	160	1 56 10 0	625 0	213 8 0	2 15 0	128 7 0*	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	555,365	2,24,570 2 0	26,18,274 0	2,92,156 14 6	61,609 14 10	5,15,676 15 4	82,208	113,425	195,633
Total for 24 weeks ...	597,196	2,39,751 0 0	28,19,689 0	3,07,866 0 6	64,319 0 0	5,82,630 0 0	88,272	118,801	206,073
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 240 miles open	37,945	14,716 11 4	1,56,290 10	15,532 3 0	2,459 1 4	32,705 1 6	6,620	6,151	12,577
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	158	58 2 0	650 0	62 2 0	9 15 0	132 7 0*	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	630,663	2,10,919 1 3	22,95,294 20	2,30,100 9 0	48,337 10 9	4,81,157 5 0	79,124	80,838	159,962

* Steamer-boat earnings excluded in calculating "Total earnings per mile of Railway."

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Tirhoot State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 6th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
240	32,705	131	259	33,359	129	240	32,705	131	259	33,359	129	654	.....

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

	Rs.
Approximate earnings for week ending 31st March 1888	11,060
Corresponding week last year	9,974
Increase	1,086
Receipts from 1st January to 31st March 1888	1,04,861
From 1st January to 2nd April 1887	84,157
Increase	20,704
	Miles.
Miles open, week ending 31st March 1888	51
Corresponding week last year	51
	Rs. A. P.
Receipts per mile open, week ending 31st March 1888	216 13 10
Corresponding week last year	195 9 1
Increase	21 4 9

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REGISTERED No. 38.

No. 17 of 1888.

SUPPLEMENT TO
The Calcutta Gazette.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 25, 1888.

OFFICIAL PAPERS.

Non-Subscribers to the GAZETTE *may receive the* SUPPLEMENT *separately on payment of Six Rupees per annum if delivered in Calcutta, or Twelve Rupees if sent by Post.*

CONTENTS.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 67.

The Council met at the Council Chamber on Saturday, the 7th April 1888, at 11 A.M.

Present:

The HON. SIR STEUART COLVIN BAYLEY, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *presiding*.
The HON. H. J. REYNOLDS, C.S.I.
The HON. C. P. L. MACAULAY, C.I.E.
The HON. T. T. ALLEN.
The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON, KT.
The HON. SIR ALFRED CROFT, K.C.I.E.
The HON. MOULVIE ABDUL JUBBAR.
The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER.
The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, C.I.E.
The HON. C. H. MOORE.
The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE.
The HON. H. PRATT.

BENGAL MUNICIPAL ACT III OF 1884, AMENDMENT BILL.

The HON. MR. MACAULAY, in introducing the Bill to amend the Bengal Municipal Act III of 1884, and moving that the Bill be read in Council, said:—The Bill is one of extremely attenuated dimensions, and I do not think I need trouble the Council with any further observations upon it.

The Bill was read accordingly. The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. MR. MACAULAY also moved that the Bill be referred to a Select Committee, consisting of the Hon. Mr. Allen, the Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee, and the Mover, with instructions to report thereon.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

CALCUTTA AND SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITIES AMALGAMATION BILL.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that the clauses of the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the municipal affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, as further amended, be further considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, for the definition of "Calcutta" in section 3, the following be substituted :—

"'Calcutta,' subject to the inclusion or exclusion of any local area by the Local Government under section four hundred and fifty-eight, includes the area bounded as follows :—

By a line drawn along the southern and western bank of the Circular Canal from the River Hooghly to the south of Ballighatta, till it meets the Pagladanga Road. Thence along the eastern edge of the Pagladanga Road to a point where it meets the Chingrahatta Road. Thence along the southern edge of the Chingrahatta Road to a point where it meets the South Tangor Road. Thence along the eastern edge of the South Tangor Road to a point where it meets the South Topsea Road. Thence along the eastern edge of the Topsea Road to its junction with the Tiljullah Road. Thence westward along the southern edge of the Tiljullah Road to its junction with the Ballygunge Circular Road. Thence along the southern and western edge of the last-mentioned road to its junction with the Puddopookur Road. Thence westward along the southern edge of the Puddopookur Road, and its continuations, the Pakoortollah Road, and the Chaoolputty Road to Tolly's Nullah. Thence southward along the eastern bank of Tolly's Nullah to the southern edge of the Tollygunge Bridge. Thence westward along the southern edge of the road leading therefrom, and its continuations, the Sharpore Road, the Goragachee Road, and the Taratollah Road to Nimuck Mehal Ghât, where it joins the Hooghly. And thence along the left bank of the Hooghly to its junction with the Circular Canal. But from this area there shall be excluded—

(1).—Fort William.
(2).—The Esplanade.
(3).—That part of Hastings, north of the south edge of Clyde Row, which has hitherto been excluded from the Municipality of the Town of Calcutta."

He said :—I beg to point out how these boundaries will stand. If the Council adopt this amendment, the line of roads commencing with the Tiljullah Road, going along the Ballygunge Circular Road, and coming to a point where the Chaoolputty Road meets Tolly's Nullah, will give the northern boundary of the suburban area excluded on the south ; and a line southward along Tolly's Nullah will be the western boundary. That is how my amendment stands. I now ask permission to move a further amendment in the alternative, if my first amendment is not accepted, that the definition of "Calcutta" be so altered that this other line of roads which I have marked in two of the maps now before the Council in red pencil be adopted as part of the boundary. That line consists of the Tiljullah Road and the Ballygunge Circular Road up to the point where the latter meets the Majra Road.

Then the boundary goes south along the eastern edge of the Majra Road up to the Beltala Road. The boundary then continues along the south edge of the Beltala Road ; and then the boundary proceeds along the eastern edge of the Russapugla Road till it meets the Tollygunge Road. The verbal alterations which this will render necessary in the definition of 'Calcutta' I have in writing, and I ask permission to move the same in the alternative if my first amendment is not accepted. My reasons are almost the same as those I had the honour to submit in support of a former motion of mine for a more restricted boundary when considering the question of the number of wards in the town. I need not therefore repeat those reasons in detail now. I will only observe that, shortly stated, those reasons amount to this. That considering the limited funds of the present Calcutta Corporation, and remembering that the inclusion of the additional suburban area will lead to an increase of liabilities without bringing in anything like a proportional increase of funds, the larger the suburban area we can conveniently leave out, the better it

will be for the improvement of the suburban area we propose to take in. The only question then is one of convenience. Can we conveniently leave what my amendment proposes to leave out? As regards the former of these two alternative amendments, I may observe that the major portion of the area proposed to be left out is scarcely of an urban character, though I am bound to admit that the area between Tolly's Nullah and Russapugla Road is of an urban character. But no such objection can apply to the second of my two alternative amendments, because the area that the boundary there proposed excludes is almost wholly of a rural character. I may also observe that neither of these two amendments is open to the objection on account of which my former motion for a restricted boundary was rejected. The objection was that it excluded the Kidderpore Docks, Kidderpore, and Alipore. All those portions will now come in under either of these two amendments, and therefore there need be no objection on that score. I have one other observation to make, namely, that by leaving out rural areas in the vicinity of the proposed new town, we leave some breathing ground, so to speak, for the poor, who are unable to pay the increased rates which will be levied within the amalgamated suburban area, and may go outside the town and take up their abode in the area left out. And if in the end these areas grow populous, then the Lieutenant-Governor, under the power reserved to him, might include them within the town thereafter. The change might be effected gradually without any hardship to the people.

His Honour the President said:—As I understand the proposal of the hon. and learned member, the difference in regard to the area in dispute is this: the line drawn by the Select Committee has for its eastern boundary the line of railway going from the South-Eastern Railway station to the Kidderpore Docks. The first proposal made by the hon. member was to take as the eastern boundary of the new municipality a line a good deal to the west of that; a line which, for practical purposes I may say, follows Tolly's Nullah as far as the Tollygunge bridge. There is no question that a great portion of the country included between these two boundaries is rural rather than urban; but, as he admits, that portion between the Russapugla Road and Tolly's Nullah, including all the lanes around Kalighat, are distinctly urban and very thickly populated. I walked there quite lately and satisfied myself that that bit of land is so distinctly urban in character that it ought to be included in the municipality. Personally, therefore, I am quite prepared to accept the second alternative of the hon. member's two proposals, and I think there is a good deal to be said for the argument which he uses—that as far as it is in the power of the new municipality to exclude from its operation thinly-populated non-urban tracts for the present, it is as well they should do so. The time will very likely come when these tracts will be as thickly populated as the portion we propose to include, but that time has not yet come, and sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof. On those grounds, speaking for myself only, I shall be prepared to accept the second alternative of the hon. member's two proposals. At the same time I shall be glad to hear what other hon. members, who have studied the question in Select Committee, have to say on the subject.

The Hon. Mr. Allen said:—That the portion of country which it is proposed to exclude under the second amendment is perfectly rural is entirely true: it is covered with paddy-fields, kitchen gardens and cultivation generally, and when this Bill was first introduced I was opposed to its being included within Calcutta. But in Select Committee I was persuaded, and I adhere to the conclusion I then came to, that on the whole it was more desirable to include it in order that the line of railway might be the boundary of Calcutta. There is great inconvenience in taking roads for boundary lines. For instance, the hon. member took the Ballygunge Circular Road as one of the boundaries. The consequence would be that a man who possessed land on this side of the road came within Calcutta, while houses on the other side of the road would be neither in Calcutta nor in any other place. The Suburban and the South Suburban Municipalities are, I believe, divided by the sandy road which runs from the Jodhpore thannah to the Tollygunge bridge, and the line of railway follows that line within a few hundred yards, so that in taking the line of railway for our boundary we are accepting a boundary which divides and marks

off one municipality from another—the South Suburban from the ordinary Suburban Municipality—we avoid the inconvenience of taking in houses on one side of a road and leaving out other houses on the other side, while the inconvenience of including within the town an area which is not of an urban character is very trifling. The assessment on such a tract of land would be almost nothing, and it is not likely that the sanitary and other provisions of the Act will come into operation in that portion of Calcutta for a very long time to come. By taking the line of railway as the boundary, the inconvenience to which I have referred would be avoided; and even should houses be erected up to the verge of the railway, still the land which forms the property of the Railway Company is a strip of land of considerable width, so that there would be a marked distinction between what would be Calcutta and what would not be Calcutta. It is not, however, at all likely that houses will be built up to the railway fence. It therefore appears to me that the inconvenience and the risk of confusion would be infinitely less by taking the line of railway as the boundary than by taking any road or series of roads. There is a mistake in the amendment in speaking of the Tiljullah Road; the road is the Bandel Road which leads from the rifle butts to the end of the Ballygunge Circular Road. I therefore accept the boundary which was settled by the Select Committee after much consideration, and I think it much better to take the railway line as a boundary than to follow the line of these roads which might lead to confusion.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—My own view of the subject is something like that of the classical donkey with two bundles of hay at equal distances on either side. The arguments on both sides are so nearly balanced that all I can say is that although I think I shall give my own vote for taking the line of railway for the boundary, having weighed both the advantages and disadvantages, I cannot press those who think otherwise to adopt my view. I do not agree in the argument that the poor would be driven out of Calcutta by increased taxation. Under the present system no doubt the poor feel the taxation very heavily, but one of the objects of the Bill is to bring about relief to those upon whom taxation now presses most hardly, and I am inclined to think that if this Bill becomes law, the position of the poor in Calcutta will be very much better than it is now.

Both the original and alternative amendments were put to the vote and respectively negatived.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison moved that in clause (*b*) of section 42, the words "The Chairman may also hold the appointment of Commissioner of Police, and" be inserted before the words "The Chairman."

He said:—The object of this amendment is not to put any obstacle in the way of the change which has always been recognized by the Select Committee, that if this Bill becomes law, and if the police-rate is not levied, there should be separation of these two appointments. But the object of it is for a purpose of equal importance, but at the same time differing very much from it, namely, that in adopting this change there may be left a *locus penitentiæ*, or an opportunity of reviewing the measure at any time should it turn out not to work well. I know well that the body of opinion on the subject of the separation of the two offices is so overwhelming that I appear almost to stand alone. At the same time it does require very strong arguments to induce the Council to tie the hands of the Government and to prevent it from going back to the present policy. It is difficult to say how strong the argument ought to be to justify us in burning our ships. The matter strikes me very forcibly, because this is not the first time the question of separating the two offices has been raised. The very same question was raised in 1876. The late Hon. Kristo Das Pal then moved the separation of the two offices, and he was replied to by the then Lieutenant-Governor himself in words so forcible that I ask the permission of the Council to read them. Sir Richard Temple said:—

"I listened with great interest and attention to all the arguments which have been advanced by him, but I deem it my duty to say that I cannot concur in any one of them. So far from the present arrangement causing divided responsibility, as the hon. member seems to think, it appears to me that it has the clearest possible advantage in uniting responsibility. It may be that the Deputy Commissioner of Police exercises a great

deal of power over the police, and that the Chairman of the Justices does not interfere very much with them. Nevertheless, he does interfere with them in some respects, and in so far as he does interfere, he interferes beneficially. But if his interference was really so rare and exceptional as the hon. member supposes, then what possible objection can there be to uniting the functions of Commissioner of Police and Chairman of the Justices? Either the Chairman does interfere with the management of the police, or he does not; if he does not, then there is no practical harm in having the power; but if he does I maintain that he does so with advantage.

"The duties of the Chairman may be varied and onerous, as the hon. member seems to consider, but I believe they will not be rendered less onerous by his being shorn of his power as Commissioner of Police, and I believe that the possession of this power renders the execution of his duty as Chairman of the Justices much more smooth than it would otherwise be; and so far from his being able to do much more for the town if he were not also Commissioner of Police (as the hon. member supposes), my belief is that he would be able to do much less; and that, were the functions of the two offices to be divided, the state of the town would not be so good as we now see it. And as to the combined power being used to the detriment of the poor and the liberty of the people of the town (as stated by the hon. member), I cannot at all believe that to be the case. I do not suppose that the police are always blameless; they may be sometimes in the wrong. But, on the whole, I believe that the police powers of the town, as administered by the officer who combines the functions of Chairman of the Justices and Commissioner of Police, are exercised judiciously and considerately towards the people. There may be instances to the contrary, but whenever they occur a prompt remedy is applied. But my impression is that the Police Administration of the town has been on the whole just and considerate towards the people, and that it is more likely to be so when the two offices are combined in an officer who has so direct an interest in the welfare of the town as the Chairman of the Justices must necessarily have. I desire to put that in the clearest manner as regards the interests of the people, viz., that the Commissioner of Police is more likely to be merciful and considerate when he holds the office of Chairman of the Justices than if he held the office of Commissioner of Police only. I believe it is the combination of the two offices that greatly improves the practical adaptability of the police administration to the needs and feelings of the people.

"As regards the experience of Bombay, I need not remind the Council at this moment that I have a great respect for the example of that Presidency town, having so recently quoted its experience from this Chair. But there are cases in which this Council may be permitted to judge for itself, and I contend that in this matter we have a better system than that which exists at Bombay. We have what is of the greatest benefit, viz., a strong, united, and efficient executive, and I believe the condition of the city and its administration will compare favourably with that of any city in 'British India;' and I do hope there may be no disturbance of this system, which long experience has shown to work so well."

I think the experience of twelve years since that time has not done anything to alter the circumstances which led Sir Richard Temple to speak so strongly in favour of keeping the two offices united, and no one would say that the police had become inefficient; and those who say that the municipal arrangements are not efficient will not say that it is because of the union of the office of Commissioner of Police with that of Chairman of the Corporation. I think that the inefficiency of the municipality would have been greater and not less had it not been for the assistance which the head of the municipality has derived from being also the head of the police. Sir Richard Temple argued in favour of continuing the union of the two offices, mainly on the ground of the advantage to the police itself. But although I believe these arguments are correct, it is in the interests of the Corporation and the future Chairman of the Corporation that the proposed separation should not be made. The police and municipal establishments are necessarily brought into contact at all points of the city. These two bodies represent two fundamentally different animating principles. The animating principle of the police may be said to be the efficiency of the public service, whereas the animating principle of the Corporation is the convenience of the community and the individual. Nothing strikes me more forcibly than that in the police the first consideration is always efficiency, whereas in the municipality the convenience of the public is everything, and everything must yield to it. I may appeal to many of the amendments on the paper to-day to show how that spirit animates the Corporation. I am not blaming the municipality: it is good to a certain extent, but if pushed too far it is not good. We have here two bodies, whose animating principles may be said to be two opposite poles, and the result must be a rapid discharge of electricity unless you apply the connecting link which will take off the current. The Chairman of the Corporation is that connecting link. Hardly a week passes when he does not have complaints from one side or the other, commenting on the action of the one or drawing attention to

something which is deficient in the other, and I derive the greatest advantage from such complaints. I get the benefit of the information, but before acting on it, where there is a sting in it, I take it out. The reports received by us are utilised, but they do not lead to friction between the two bodies. Of course there are cases in which subordinates of the two bodies have come into more marked collision, but they are comparatively rare. What happens every day is something in the form of a criticism or report which now comes under one authority; but if the two bodies were separate, would terminate in correspondence and friction. Nor can it be said that experience everywhere else is against it. In England, in all boroughs of 30,000 inhabitants, and in many of less extent, the police are the servants of the Corporation; they are appointed and paid by them, and Government interference extends no further than the obtaining of a report periodically from an Inspector appointed for the purpose, and the Government do not sanction a contribution—for there the Government give a contribution—unless that officer reports well of the efficiency of the police. In all other respects it is a municipal force. In France the Mayor is the head of the Police, except in Paris. Paris is placed under a special disability in consequence of past proceedings there, and the police is under the Prefect of the Seine and the Corporation is shorn of all police authority. Neither is the experience of Madras and Bombay to the point. The question is, is it desirable that the Chairman of the Corporation should sink into a very inferior position? If it is, then possibly the experience of Madras may be to the point. In Madras there is a separation of the two offices. The present Chairman of the Corporation there occupies a position a little below the Inspector-General of Registration and a little above the Superintendent of Stamps and Stationery. If that is a desirable position for the Chairman of the Calcutta Corporation, then of course the separation of the two offices is desirable. I am aware that there are some members of the Corporation and of this Council who think that in some respects that is a desirable position, because the more the position and the prestige of the Chairman declines, the more the probability of the nomination falling into the hands of the Commissioners. I do not mean to say anything against that. We perfectly understand that the natural desire of many of the Commissioners is that that might be brought about; and it is but natural that seeing that this arrangement will tend in that direction, they will be influenced to do what they can to effect the separation of the two offices. But it is not wise for them to do so. The position of the Corporation and of their Chairman is so closely united that their prestige and influence must fall together. I have always fully felt that the interests of the Corporation and my own are identical, and that whatever redounds to its credit redounds to mine. But the opposite is also true, and it will infallibly be found that if the position of the Chairman is lowered, the position of the municipality will decline with it. When the Chairman of the Corporation loses his influence with the Government, and becomes a personage of less importance in the town and occupies a more subordinate position, the prestige of the Corporation will be weakened, and the desire to serve on it will decline also. One of the greatest objections to this separation of offices is the inevitable decline in the importance of the Corporation which will be the result. Then, as regards the system in Bombay, the only way it has worked has been by the head of the municipality being another Commissioner of Police. He is called the "Municipal Commissioner," but is in reality a second Commissioner of Police. In Bombay the executive is not in the hands of the Corporation as it is here. The Corporation has the financial control, but in all ordinary matters, when the funds have been granted, the Municipal Commissioner does as he likes. The Town Council is a separate body independent of the Corporation, but the Municipal Commissioner has all the powers of the executive, and as a consequence it is most interesting to observe the totally different turn the discussions on the Bill have taken in Bombay as compared to what is happening here. The Bills in themselves are in many respects similar. Here the objections are almost entirely to powers being conferred upon the Corporation. You have the singular position of the municipality itself and those whom they regard as their special representatives not asking you to increase the powers of the Corporation, but not to increase them. On the other hand, you see no traces of friction between the executive and the municipality itself. The Commissioners are represented by the Con-

missioners in meeting. The executive are represented by the phrase "Commissioners," which means that in all cases where there is no special rule, vote or resolution of the Commissioners to the contrary, the Chairman exercises the power. Not a single case throughout the whole of this Bill has there been in which we have fought as to whether we should have the phrase "Commissioners in meeting" or "Commissioners"—so complete is the agreement. In Bombay, on the contrary, the whole struggle regarding the Bill has been a struggle between the "Municipal Commissioner" and the Corporation. The Bill was framed so as to give the whole power to the "Commissioner," and the amendments proposed were nearly all to substitute one for the other. It has been simply a struggle for authority. They raise no objection at all to the whole class of sections which have been objected to here. All the sanitary powers conferred by the Bill are much more stringent than they have been proposed to be made here, but they have been passed without objection. The simple question is, who shall exercise the power? So it cannot be said that you have not the same problem. You have an officer of the executive in the place of the "Municipal Commissioner." It may be well, at a time when it is easy to find an efficient Commissioner of Police for Calcutta, to try the change, especially when the municipality will not pay for the police. But what harm can there be in leaving the door open to the Government to go back if they find the change does not work? It seems as if those who advocate the change admit that they are afraid it will turn out wrong. If it turns out well, and if my expectations prove wrong, what harm can there be in having the provision in the Bill? But should the change turn out wrong, and should injury be done to the town or to the police, or should it turn out not easy to find an efficient Commissioner of Police apart from the Chairman of the Corporation, and should Your Honor or your successor be of the same opinion as the Lieutenant-Governor of 1876, why should you not be allowed to retrace your steps and say, as Sir Richard Temple said, that long experience has shown the union of the two offices to work well?

The Hon. Mr. Macaulay said:—It is with great reluctance that I find myself compelled to oppose the amendment, and I can assure my hon. friend that my reluctance is very much enhanced by the consideration that I am opposing the wishes of an officer who has for so many years, and with so much distinction, held the amalgamated office of Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police. But in spite of all that my hon. friend has said, and in spite, to my mind, of a certain confusion of argument which he has introduced in reference to the discussions in Bombay, and to what Sir Richard Temple said in 1876, it appears to me that the issues before the Council, and the conclusions to be drawn from them, are perfectly clear. The hon. member has adduced certain arguments in favour of the principle of his amendment, and adds what I may call an apology for its form. As regards the principle, the first question is, can it in any way be said that the conjunction of the functions of the Commissionership of Police with the Chairmanship of the Municipality will be of assistance to the Corporation in the discharge of municipal work? The Council may put aside the question of the efficiency of the police. That has not been called into question, and I have no intention of calling it in question. But as regards the first point, what is our experience? In 1864 Sir John Strachey, who was Sanitary Commissioner at the time, drew attention to the fact that portions of Calcutta were in an extremely bad condition in point of sanitation, and he was of opinion that this was due to some want of executive vigour, and that the hands of the Chairman of the Corporation would be strengthened if he were made also head of the police. This suggestion was adopted, although the arrangement was altered after a time. But with reference to what Sir Richard Temple said in 1876, I am bound to tell the Council, from my own personal experience, that at that time the police did not give any assistance to the Corporation, and that the Chairman of the Corporation did not interfere with the regulation of the police. I myself was Deputy Commissioner of Police in 1875 under Sir Stuart Hogg; and if ever there was a strong and active executive officer at the head of the Corporation, it was Sir Stuart Hogg. Yet he hardly interfered at all in police administration. Some years afterwards my hon. friend himself was obliged

to admit that he himself did no part of the police work, as he was unable to find time for it. Now, if in 1875, a keen, able, I may even say masterful, man like Sir Stuart Hogg found it necessary to put aside what I may call the most attractive part of his duties, when the municipality was, if not in its infancy, at any rate in its youth, is it likely that the Chairman of the Corporation, which would now control the great amalgamated municipality to be created, when sanitation has made so much progress and so many works are in contemplation, would be able to devote time to the control of the police or derive any benefit from their assistance? As to the second and, it seems to me, only other argument which my hon. friend has used, that to dissociate the two offices would have the effect of injuring the prestige of the Chairman of the Corporation, I think that that is very much a matter of opinion; but I should certainly say that the head of the amalgamated municipality of Calcutta and the Suburbs will hold a position which will require no additional prestige from the conjunction of another office. But apart from these considerations, the great point is this. The police will now be paid by the Government, and no part of the cost will be borne by the Corporation. I wish to know what claims the Corporation have, either on the ground of assistance from the police, or on the ground of prestige to the head of the Corporation, to ask the Government to put the regulation of the police under an officer whom it does not pay? [The Hon. Sir H. Harrison—It appoints him.] But it does not pay him. My hon. friend has brought forward the case of the police in English boroughs, where the police are paid as well as controlled by the municipal authorities. Now this might be used as an argument why the people of Calcutta should pay for their police, but I think that such an illustration is inopportune at the very time when the police of Calcutta are no longer to be paid by the municipality. If the police rate were to be retained, there might be some sort of reason for retaining the present state of things; but precisely when the maintenance of the police is to be taken away from the Corporation, and the Government is to provide for its payment, it seems strange for my hon. friend to refer to the case of towns in England where the Government does not pay for the police.

So much for such arguments as my hon. friend has brought in support of his proposal. Looking at it from the other point of view, let us see what are the objections to it? The first objection to my mind is that it is a sham. My hon. friend does not pretend that he takes any real part in the police work, and it is clear, except for a time when Mr. Souttar made an energetic effort to do so, that it is impossible for any Chairman of the Corporation to take any substantial part in the work of the police of Calcutta. In the second place it involves an injustice. I maintain that it is unjust to the officer who is in charge of a great body like the Metropolitan Police, and who is practically responsible for its working, that he should not have the name and title of the office. In the third place, it might be, though it has not yet been, a source of very serious inconvenience. Calcutta is a great metropolis, where, as the Council are aware, a great many elements of disorder are brought together from all sides—elements which are always ready to menace the public peace and even to cause political danger. It is important that the Government should be more closely in touch with the police of the metropolis than with the police of any other part of the province. It is due entirely to the personal qualities of my hon. friend, to his tact and moderation, that no friction has arisen in his case. But that does not alter the fact that the arrangement involves a danger of very serious public inconvenience. Now as regards what I may call the apology of my hon. friend for the permissive form of his amendment, and his desire that the Council should not tie the hands of the Government or burn its ships, but on the contrary should provide for it a *locus penitentiæ*, I can only say that the policy of the Government in this respect has already been distinctly and officially affirmed. The plurality of appointments, though, I admit, not of emoluments, which has been held of late years by the Commissioner of Police, has undoubtedly resulted in inconvenience. The Commissioner of Police was till lately also President of the Steam-boiler Commission, and, as in the case of the police, he found it impossible to devote much time to the supervision of that institution. The result was that the attention of the Government of India and of the Secretary of State was drawn to this [illegible]

appointments, and that the question was asked whether it was possible for any one man to do all this work. My hon. friend may, under the Act, be a member of the Port Commission and of the Bengal Council, and he is also President of I do not know how many charitable institutions besides. But in the case of the Boiler Commission it was found necessary to make new arrangements; and the Government then officially declared that the office of the Commissioner of Police should be severed from that of the Chairman of the Corporation. That being the case, what possible good can there be in giving the Government a power to do something against which it has formally and officially declared? On all these grounds I cannot advise the Council to accept the principle of the amendment, and its permissive form does not save it from condemnation. I therefore ask the Council to reject it.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I will not take up time in reply. My experience, if not much longer, is a little longer than that of my hon. friend who has opposed the amendment, and my experience is that what is officially condemned in one decade is most usually officially thought right in another. There is no country in which the official pendulum swings more certainly, and in which Government opinion and public opinion changes more rapidly, than in India. That is certainly my experience. My hon. friend said that the office of Commissioner of Police is an impossible burden for the Chairman of the Corporation to bear. [The HON. MR. MACAULAY—On the contrary, I said that as Commissioner of Police he did not do anything at all.] But the Commissioner of Police signed every letter to Government, and the Government would not receive a letter not signed by him; and he took considerable part in the correspondence. The Lieutenant-Governor, for instance, has no personal knowledge of the wants of the Medical Department or of the Public Works Department, and yet he exercises a control over both departments. In the same way the Chairman of the Corporation has very great advantage if he has a control over the police, even if he has not the advantage of exercising control over its details. I think that not many years will pass when not the rights of the municipality but the public interests will necessitate a return to the present system. Before any long time elapses, I think it will be found desirable in the public interest that the two offices should be united.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—I wish to say a few words before the debate closes. The hon. member has alluded to the previous history of the question to a certain extent, but I may add to that, that quite recently the Government of India selected a special officer and deputed him to Madras and Bombay to examine the working of the police in those Presidency towns, and he made suggestions, primarily financial, but also administrative, in regard to the working of the police in Calcutta. One of the leading and most important suggestions made by that officer was that the separation between the posts of Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police, which has been already recommended by my predecessor, should be carried out without any further delay. This recommendation with others was submitted by the Government of India for my opinion, and I have recently had the duty of sending in that opinion, which concurs with the opinion of Sir Rivers Thompson and with that of the officer who was deputed to make enquiries: that upon grounds of public responsibility, of the necessity of the man who does the work being the responsible officer to the public, and on the principle that there should not be any shadow or cloud between the Government which is the representative of the public, and the working officer at the head of the police, the separation is necessary and desirable, quite apart from any personal or other considerations whatever. But on looking a little beyond that, my views were strengthened by the historical aspect of the case of which some details have been given by the Hon. Mr. Macaulay. It was also strengthened by the acknowledgement which I had previously seen put on record by the Commissioner of Police himself, that it is impossible for an officer in the position of the Chairman to the Corporation to devote his time to any of the details of those minor points connected with police administration. My opinion was also strengthened by the considerations which the Hon. Mr. Macaulay has placed before the Council that in times of difficulty, and in case of a crisis when some action has to be taken within half an hour, or an hour, it will be exceedingly inconvenient that the

man who has the power to give an order is not the person whom by official routine the Government was bound to address. They were bound to address the Chairman of the Corporation who does not give the order, and he has to address the man who will give the order. Then, when we come to the present aspect of the case in connexion with the Bill, there is the particular fact that so long as the Municipality paid for the police, it was quite right that their Chairman should have some control over it, and that his prestige and position should be increased by the extent of that control. But as my hon. friend has admitted, as soon as the duty of paying for the police is removed from the shoulders of the Municipality, that argument no longer applies, and there is no necessity for further discussing it. For my own part I am greatly obliged to the hon. member for the stool of repentance which he has provided for me, but I see no necessity for taking advantage of it. The principle involved is so important that if the Government should in future wish to revert to the present arrangement, it is not unreasonable that they should again bring it before the Legislature. I shall vote against the motion.

The Motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 3.	*Noes* 9.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved that, in clause (*a*) of section 43, the words "or less than two thousand five hundred rupees a month" be omitted.

He said :—Under the present law no minimum is fixed at all ; the maximum salary is fixed, but the minimum is left to the discretion of the Commissioners. It seems to me that nothing has happened to necessitate the Council making any modification in the law at the present moment. Since the introduction of the elective principle, no less than five persons have been appointed Chairman of the Corporation, and in each of those cases the Commissioners in meeting have had to make provision for their salary, and I do not think any instance can be shown where the discretion left to the Commissioners has not been properly exercised by them. In every instance Rs. 2,500 a month has been fixed as the salary of the Chairman, but house-rent was reserved until such time as the Commissioners were satisfied with the work of the Chairman, and then house-rent was allowed. That being so, I do not see any necessity for making this change in the law. The change implies a slur upon the Commissioners, as if they had not exercised their discretion properly, and therefore it was necessary to modify the law. The officer who is to be the Chairman of the future Corporation will be appointed by the Government, and the only safeguard which the Commissioners have against an inexperienced officer being appointed to the post of Chairman of the Corporation is the fixing of his salary. No such thing has happened during the last twelve years, and I do not for a moment think it will happen, and that being so, I cannot understand why this slur should be cast on the Commissioners by making a modification in the existing law.

His Honour the President said :—As I am to a certain degree responsible for asking that this provision should be retained in the Bill, I will explain my reasons. The Council having now affirmed the principle that the Chairman of the Corporation should be appointed by the Government, it seems to me there must be some point at which the question between the two people who ride on the horse—as to who is to ride in front and who is to ride behind—must come to an issue. The hon. gentleman says he is not aware what has occurred during the last twelve years to necessitate this modification being made now. I quite admit that nothing has happened, but must we always wait till the steed is stolen before we shut the door ? It is perfectly certain that if an

officer is appointed who is distasteful to the Commissioners, and if no minimum salary is fixed, it will be in the competence of the Corporation to adopt a course which will render the power of appointment nominal and to prevent its being exercised. The Government may appoint A to be the Chairman; the Commissioners may fix Rs. 100 a month as the salary: then B may be appointed, and the Commissioners may again fix Rs. 100, and so on until the power of appointment is whittled away to absolutely nothing. I do not anticipate that this friction will occur, for the common sense of both parties will easily bring about a *modus vivendi*. But when you come to make legal provision as to the authority in whom the power of appointment shall rest, it is perfectly apparent that to leave a counteracting power with another body will be to make the power of appointment a nullity. As long as you give the power to the Government you must fix some adequate salary as a minimum to prevent the power of nomination being made absolutely null. I can assure the hon. gentleman that nothing like a slur is intended, and I cannot understand how any reasonable person can suppose that any slur is intended. It is like any ordinary condition which is drawn up when an agreement between two persons has to be made in which a clause safeguarding the agreement implies no slur on either party. And I would also point out that the power of reducing the salary is not the only safeguard which the Commissioners have to prevent the nomination of an inexperienced officer. The law provides that a majority of two-thirds of the Commissioners may insist on the removal of the Chairman, and that the Government must then remove him. I hope the Council will accept these reasons for the proposal to fix a minimum, and will not think that any slur is in any way meant.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—I wish to make one observation in reference to what has fallen from His Honour the President. My experience is that it will be utterly impossible to obtain a majority of two-thirds for the removal of any Chairman: with every deference to the opinion expressed by His Honour, I think that provision affords no safeguard at all.

The motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that in line 30 of section 45, for the word "section" the word "clause" be substituted.

He said:—As it is intended to accept the amendment to be moved by the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter, that when the Chairman nominates for the approval of the Commissioners, he shall, if the Commissioners wish it, nominate three persons, of whom the Commissioners might choose one; this verbal amendment becomes necessary to make the meaning clear.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that in lines 6 and 7 of section 46, for the words "subject to confirmation by the authority empowered to confirm such removal" the words "subject to the approval or sanction of the authority (if any) empowered by this Act to approve or sanction such removal" be substituted.

He said:—It is desirable to indicate that the same authority who may dismiss an officer may suspend or fine him. The word "confirmation" is not the word used: it is "approval" in the case of the Government, or "sanction" in the case of the Commissioners. The object of this amendment is to improve the wording of the section.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said:—I do not see that this alteration is merely a formal one. When the words "if any" are added, it must mean that there is no such authority in the Commissioners. As the section stands, it means that the Commissioners will have power to sanction the removal, and will also have power to sanction the imposition of the fine contemplated under this section. If the words "if any" are added, a doubt will be thrown as to the real meaning of the section; and therefore it does not seem to me that the alteration is a mere verbal one, and I oppose it.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said in reply:—I cannot accept the validity of the argument used by my hon. friend. There are three ways in which the section will apply—First, to the case of an officer appointed by the Commissioners and the appointment approved by the Government; secondly, to the case of an officer appointed by the Chairman, whose appointment must be sanctioned

by the Commissioners; and lastly, to the case of an appointment under Rs. 200 a month, in which case no sanction is required. The section as it stands may be read as implying that in every case there is *some* authority mentioned by the Act. There can be no mistake as to the cases in which there is authority. The words 'if any' will apply to cases in which there is no power of approval. It seems to me that the ambiguity lies in the old section under which it appears as if there is always some authority to approve or sanction. The section as proposed to be amended will make the meaning clear.

The Motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 8.	*Noes* 4.
The Hon. H. Pratt.	The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
The Hon. C. H. Moore.	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.	
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.	
His Honour the President.	

So the Motion was carried.

[On a suggestion made by His Honour the President, the following three amendments were considered together.]

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved that, in line 2 of the second paragraph of section 63, for the words "eighteen" and "twelve" the words "thirty" and "twenty-two," respectively, be substituted; also that in line 13 of the same paragraph, for the word "three" the word "five" be substituted.

He said :—Section 63 provides for the appointment of a General Committee consisting of 18 members, of whom 12 shall be elected by the fifty elected Commissioners, one shall be nominated by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, one by the Calcutta Trades' Association, one by the Port Commissioners, and three by the 15 nominated Commissioners. At present the Town Council consists of 30 members, the average attendance being 14 or 15. This question was fully discussed by the Amalgamation Committee, who recommended a reduction of the number of members of the Town Council, but at the same time they recommended that special fees be paid to ensure attendance. When this Bill was first referred to the Select Committee, it was almost unanimously resolved that provision for the payment of fees should be eliminated. As that has been done, I do not see why the other part of the recommendation of that Committee should be retained. It would be extremely inconvenient to pay 30 members every week, and very properly it became necessary to reduce the number. But when there is no longer a question of payment, I do not see why the number should stand in the way at all. There will be 25 wards. It is a matter of great advantage, and I believe my hon. friend in charge of the Bill will admit it, to have all the wards represented in the Town Council. Week after week local grievances are placed before the Town Council for consideration by one of the members in whose ward the grievance has occurred, and the matter is taken up and decided one way or another. If, however, the number of elected Commissioners is reduced to 12, having 25 wards, it will necessitate the making of at least two wards into one for the purpose of appointing elected Commissioners to the Town Council. The result will be that many Commissioners who take great interest in the affairs of the town will be excluded by reason of the limit of number, and their services, which are valuable, will no longer be at the disposal of the Town Council. And one of the obvious difficulties which will arise will be that there will be debates at the general meetings of the Commissioners much more frequently than at present, because Ward Commissioners who are not members of the Town Council will take up matters which they would have discussed in the Town Council if they had been members of that body. Moreover, the Town Council itself would be more willing to consider complaints made by a Ward Commissioner than if the grievance was brought before them in respect of a ward by a Commissioner who was not returned by that ward. Therefore there will not be a reciprocal feeling between the rate-payers and the members of the General Committee, which is essentially

necessary for the proper administration of the affairs of the town. For myself, I have been a member of the Town Council since it has been formed. No doubt on some occasions, when matters of great importance come to be discussed, there was a full attendance of members, and it might be that on such occasions some inconvenience was felt by the Chairman owing to the presence of the large number; but considering that many of the persons who attended on such occasions are those who were in the habit of taking great deal of interest in municipal matters, it was better they were heard in Committee than that there should have been long discussions at the general meetings of the Commissioners. It is under these circumstances that I bring forward this motion, but if it is thought desirable that all the 25 wards should be represented in the General Committee, as will presently be proposed by my hon. friend, Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee, I shall not oppose that motion.

The Motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 4.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, for the second paragraph of section 63, the following be substituted :—

"A General Committee shall be elected by ballot by the Commissioners in meeting, and shall consist of thirty-five Commissioners—one being chosen from the elected Commissioners of each of the twenty-five wards, and the remaining ten being chosen from the Commissioners appointed by Government and those elected by the Bengal Chamber of Commerce, the Calcutta Trades' Association, and the Commissioners for making Improvements in the Port of Calcutta."

He said :—I move this amendment because I consider it necessary that each of the wards or electoral units should be represented by one of its elected Commissioners in the General Committee, which is to be the Executive Committee of the Commissioners, and which will occupy the same position as the present Town Council does. My reasons are two—First, it is clear that every elected Commissioner will naturally feel inclined to serve that ward best which returned him. But if he has to represent more wards than one on the General Committee, then in almost every case, and particularly in cases involving conflict of interests, wards, other than those the members of which are elected to the Committee, will be most imperfectly represented. That is not a desirable state of things. The second reason is that by having each of the wards represented on the General Committee, we afford greater facilities to the rate-payers to get their local grievances redressed than we can by having a General Committee constituted in the manner proposed in the Bill. That is a reason which has already been alluded to by the hon. member who moved the last amendment. So that we ought to have 25 members on the General Committee out of 50 elected Commissioners. To keep up the proportion as nearly as possible, 10 more members should be selected from amongst the 25 remaining Commissioners. The number would thus rise to 35. I know it may be said that when a Committee consists of a large number of members work is done less quickly than in a small Committee. That may be true to a certain extent, but we should bear in mind that this loss in time will be more than compensated for by gain in efficiency and in public confidence in the decisions arrived at by the General Committee, and therefore we should not object to any little loss of time on this score. I may be permitted to add that it is as true in machinery municipal as in machinery mechanical that gain in time is always joined with loss in power and efficiency, and conversely. There is another point worth noticing. My amendment, subject to certain conditions, gives a voice to every member of the Corporation in the selection of the Executive Committee, whilst the provision in the Bill leaves to

different sections of the Corporation the right to elect their respective representatives in the Executive Committee; and what is worse, in one instance, in the instance of small electoral units, such as the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades' Association, and the Port Commissioners, it gives the power of electing representatives of representatives not to these last-mentioned representatives, but to the original electors themselves. That, I consider, is wrong in principle. It is allowing the original electors an interference with the working of the electoral body after that body has been constituted. I may also point out that my amendment has this additional advantage. It cannot be denied that though it is necessary in the first instance to have every sectional interest, geographical or otherwise, represented in the general body of the Corporation, on the Executive Committee of that Corporation those members will work best who are most void of party spirit, who are not the least animated by party interest; and that can only be secured by giving the right of election to the General Committee to the Corporation at large, instead of dividing the Corporation into groups, and asking each group of Commissioners to elect their representatives. On all these grounds I ask that my amendment be accepted. It is in certain respects an improvement on the last proposed amendment. It carries out to the full the suggestions as to the necessity of each ward being represented, where my hon. friend's amendment stops short at a certain point. As regards the number of the Committee, my amendment is open to objection, but this is but a trifling one when it is remembered that instead of having a town consisting of six square miles as we have now, we shall have a new town of, I believe, 18 square miles.

The Motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 4.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison moved that, for the second paragraph of section 63, the following be substituted:—

"The General Committee shall consist of eighteen Commissioners, of whom twelve shall be elected in such manner as the Commissioners in meeting may direct by the Commissioners elected under clause (1) of section 8.

And six shall be elected in accordance with such rules as the Local Government may prescribe by the Commissioners nominated under section 7, and elected under the last clause of section 8."

He said—I shall take advantage in moving this amendment to comment also on the amendments of the two preceding speakers. It is true that there is some advantage in having one member from each ward, but the views of the Commissioners are so pronounced in favour of keeping the present wards, that we have now 25 wards, and I look upon a Town Council of 37 members to be quite out of the question. I look upon a Town Council of 30 members as half-and-half; nor does it give adequate representation to the other Commissioners not elected under clause (1). Though there is a certain advantage in having one member from each ward, I do not attach anything like so much weight to it as the two hon. members who preceded me have done. We can always invite one or both members of a ward when any thing local has to be discussed. By far the greater number of questions do not affect any particular ward, and there is really too much isolated ward interests as opposed to the general interests of the Corporation. As regards the principles of legislation, I am decidedly opposed to what the Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee has advanced. I think it shirks a fundamental principle. If you allow the whole body of Commissioners to elect to the General Committee, you will not get a proper representation of the minor bodies. Suppose a native gentleman was sent in by the Chamber of Commerce, would it be right and proper that that very one should be selected without any malice prepense by

the whole body of Commissioners to represent the Chamber? On the last occasion of election to the Town Council, two gentlemen, one of whom would have been a most proper representative, and another who would not, were nominated. Of the nominated Commissioners, the one who was not so good a representative had more friends among the elected Commissioners, and he got one or two more votes; the majority did not wish to exclude the Eurasian gentleman, but they wished to have their friend; and that is sure to happen if you allow election in that way. Therefore you should allow the elected members to select their representatives, and the other classes theirs. The representatives of the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades' Association and the Port Commissioners are in the same class as the Government nominees, and it would be better if representatives from all those classes were elected by the general body of nominees. On the other hand, it will not always be convenient to do otherwise. Take the case of the two members of the Port Commissioners. It is quite possible that neither of them may be able to afford the time, when perhaps a second member of the Chamber or of the Trades would serve the town better. I can assure the Council that they will get better representatives of all the bodies if you allow them to be elected by the 25 Commissioners. For the rest, I consider that we might possibly go up to 20 or even 24, but a Town Council of 30 members has often been found to work very inconveniently. We have no set discussions, and we often have separate discussions in each corner of the room going on at the same time, because everybody cannot find an opportunity of getting in his word. The work is, however, best done with twelve or fourteen members present, but not with a much larger number. I think therefore that, all things considered, we must abandon the principle of one member for each ward, now that we shall have such a large number of wards; but on the other hand it will conduce to convenience if we agree to accept the grouping of the 25 nominated members, and the selection by them as a body of those who should represent them on the General Committee.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said—I have carefully listened to the speech of the last speaker. He is slightly in error in stating that it will be necessary for the Chamber of Commerce to elect one of their own representatives to act on the General Committee. The Bill says: "One shall be nominated by the Chamber of Commerce, one by the Trades' Association, and one by the Port Commissioners," so that the nomination is not limited to any particular person. Any of those bodies is at liberty to name any one they please. That being so, I do not see much force in the observation of my hon. friend as to any modification in the way proposed by him. He has thrown out a hint that possibly there would be no objection to 24 members on the General Committee; that is the largest number he would agree to. Twenty-four to my mind is certainly a better number than eighteen, because I certainly think it will be an advantage to make as many Commissioners as possible conversant with the working of the affairs of the Corporation. If there are only twelve elected Commissioners they will virtually be the governing body of the Corporation. If eight of them agreed together they would practically be able to carry everything before them; but if the number is larger it will be impossible to form small parties, and there will be the advantage of some of them giving independent views. That is a decided advantage which ought to be secured if possible. The Chairman of the Corporation no doubt would be better pleased to have the number reduced as much as possible, because he would have a small body to deal with, and he would be able to persuade a small body better than a larger one. That I can well understand, but we should not forget that the exclusion of those members from the General Committee who take an active interest in the affairs of the Corporation will necessitate warm discussions at the General Meetings of the Commissioners, which should be avoided as much as possible, and the effect of having a large number on the General Committee will be to avoid such discussions. If my amendment raising the number to 30 is lost, I claim permission to propose a further amendment that the number be raised to 24.

[HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT intimated that he could not give that permission.]

The Motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 9.	*Noes* 3.
The Hon. H. Pratt.	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
The Hon. Dr Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
The Hon. C. H. Moore.	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. Dr Mahendra Lal Sircar.	
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.	
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.	
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.	
His Honour the President.	

So the Motion was carried.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved the following amendments :—
That, for the first paragraph of section 64, the following be substituted : —

"The General Committee shall ordinarily meet once a week for the transaction of business. It shall transact such business as may be expressly referred to it by the Corporation, or as may not be referred to any other standing or special Committee."

Also that in line 3 of section 65, after the word "Commissioners" the words "a Budget Committee for preparing an annual budget, and" be inserted.

Also that in line 1 of the third paragraph of section 70, after the word "to" the words "a Special Committee to be called the Budget Committee" be inserted; also that in line 1 of the fourth paragraph of the same section, for the word "general" the word "special" be substituted.

He said :—Past experience has shown that it is desirable to have a separate Budget Committee, because there are some Commissioners who may not be members of the General Committee, but who may be best qualified for the Budget Committee. The object of the amendment is to exclude the annual budgets from the consideration of the Town Council, and to leave the Commissioners at liberty to appoint a separate Budget Committee.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said :—This is not a very important matter, and I cannot say I strongly deprecate it. But the principle seems to me to be wrong. We have a General Committee which will have to deal week by week with financial questions, and no doubt, being a Finance Committee, it will pay special attention to the consideration of the budget, which is a very important matter, being not merely estimates, but sanctions on different heads as well. A separate Budget Committee is now appointed by the Commissioners in meeting, and is subject to all the difficulties to which the appointment of such Committees is subject. The list of members must be prepared by some body or be drawn by ballot; sometimes the Commissioners get out of the difficulty by asking the Chairman to select the members of the Budget Committee. I cannot say that the present system is altogether bad. But when you have a General Committee which understands what the wants of the town are, and which in some sense will be a representative Committee, it will really make a better Budget Committee than a Committee chosen by four or five leading Commissioners. I think the proposed amendment not an amendment in the right direction, though it is not a matter of great importance. The General Committee I consider ought to be the Budget Committee.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter said in reply :—I certainly think that some members of the General Committee ought to be members of the Budget Committee, and also some members of the Bustee Committee; some members from each of the standing Committees should be on the Budget Committee. There is always some difficulty in selecting the members of Committees; and if it is considered desirable that the Budget Committee should be appointed by ballot, I shall have no objection. My experience is that there are some members who, though not on the Town Council, would make excellent members of the Budget Committee, and whom it would be desirable to have on that Committee, and now that the members of the elected and nominated Commissioners on the General Committee have been reduced to 12 and 6 respectively, it will be still more desirable that some of the outside members should be appointed as

members of the Budget Committee. I do not ask this as a matter of favour. I consider it a matter of vital importance.

The motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I come to the amendments now, notice of which was given only this morning; but as far as I can judge, they are in the nature of details involving no important principle: they are chiefly matters regarding the working of the Office, as to which I have received help from the Vice-Chairman and some of the Commissioners, as well from some of the officers of the Corporation. Several of them introduce amendments which will be conducive to the good working of the departments concerned; and if no hon. member objects, I shall ask the Council to consider them. I have put the first of these amendments at the head of the chapter, but it has been pointed out that some objection might be taken to its application to the carriage and horse tax. I move first that, at the end of section 77, the following definition be inserted:—

"'Person' in this Chapter shall include a Company, Firm, Association, or Hindu Joint-Family."

The HON. MR. ALLEN said:—I think the members of the Select Committee may complain of amendments of this kind being sprung upon the Council at the last moment without having been laid before the Committee. The significance of the amendment may be very much greater than the hon. member anticipates. The definition of "person" is given in the General Clauses Act of the Government of India. It applies to Acts passed only by the Government of India, and therefore it may be said to have no force in regard to Acts passed by this Council: yet as a principle of interpretation it would apply. Now as to the particular cases to which the proposed definition is intended to apply. This is a chapter dealing with the carriage and horse tax, and the trades and professions tax, and it is difficult to see in what way the definition would apply. The word "person" occurs in only a few sections in the chapter. The obligation to take out a license for a carriage or animal is imposed on the owner or person in charge. Primarily the obligation is upon the owner; secondarily on the person in charge. Under the amendment the "person in charge" in section 78 would include a joint-Hindu family; so that the joint-Hindu family would be required to forward a statement in writing containing a description of the carriages and animals in their charge which are liable to the tax. And in the section in which the penalty is imposed (section 80), the word "person" does not occur. When you come to the next part of the chapter, which relates to the tax on trades, professions and callings, great confusion will be caused by the introduction of this amendment. A joint-Hindu family having taken out one license, every member of it will be at liberty for the payment made on account of it to carry on a trade, profession or calling. I think it will be very unwise to accept a definition like this at the last moment, because it may considerably embarrass the working of the Act. It is an unprecedented occurrence for a member who has for a year and half been drafting the language of an Act, and after it has been discussed and re-discussed in Select Committee, to propose an amendment of this kind without affording proper opportunity for its consideration.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said in reply:—The hon. member did not say what the definition of "person" in the General Clauses Act is. I do not see anything unreasonable in a joint-Hindu family taking out a license. This amendment has been before the Council for many days: it is not sprung on the Council at the last moment. It has been adopted by me in consequence of representations made by the department concerned, that many Honorary Magistrates refuse to interpret the word "person" as including a company or joint-Hindu family. I am, however, willing to withdraw the amendment at this stage of the proceedings and bring it on afterwards if it is thought necessary.

The motion was then, by leave, withdrawn.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, for section 78, the following be substituted:—

"The owner or person in charge of a carriage or animal kept in Calcutta shall, before the first day of May and the first day of November in each year, forward to the office of the Commissioners a statement in writing signed by him, containing a description of the carriages

and animals owned by him or in his charge; and if he claims exemption under any of the clauses of section seventy-seven, noting the grounds of such claim.

If exemption be not claimed, such person shall, if he is the owner of the carriages or animals, or if the owner is not resident in Calcutta, at the same time pay to the Commissioners such sum as shall be payable by him for the half-year commencing on the first day of April or on the first day of October (as the case may be) for the carriages and animals specified in such statement according to the rates given in the Fourth Schedule.

If the person forwarding the statement be not the owner, and the owner is resident in Calcutta, such person may, at his discretion, instead of paying the tax due, state the name and address of the owner.

Any person who becomes the owner, or who takes charge of any carriage or animal kept in Calcutta after the first day of May, or the first day of November in any half-year, shall, within a week of his becoming owner or taking charge thereof, send in a statement as in the first clause of this section, and if liable to pay the tax for such carriage or animal under this section, shall pay the whole of the tax for the then current half-year according to the rates specified in the Fourth Schedule.

The Commissioners may, if they are satisfied that any such carriage has not been used within the half-year, or that any such carriage or animal has been kept for only a portion of the then current half-year,

refund, or remit the whole, or such portion thereof as they may think fit, of the amount so payable.

For the purposes of this section, a livery stable-keeper shall be deemed to be the owner of every animal in his stables."

He said:—At present great difficulty arises from persons who are prosecuted for not having taken out licenses claiming exemption under one or other of the exemption clauses. It would be much fairer if such persons claimed exemption at an earlier stage. It is not at all the rule that statements are sent in by persons owning carriages and horses; but statements are left to be filled up, and thus opportunity is given for claiming exemption. As to the second clause of the section, the person in possession is bound to pay, whether the owner is or is not in Calcutta.

The Hon. Mr. Allen said:—The objection I have already taken to amendments of this kind being brought at the last moment applies equally to the present amendment. It is certainly extraordinary that after two years' meditation, and after the Bill has been altered by the Committee to suit his views, the hon. member in charge of the Bill should suddenly have new light drawn on him. It is only about four weeks since he himself signed the report of the Committee advising the Council to pass the Bill then sent up. Independently of the merits of the amendment, I say that the Council ought not to accept it at this stage. The Select Committee has most carefully discussed every section of the Bill, and has sent in their report and the revised draft Bill, and the Council is asked on the opinion of a single member to adopt this amendment. Without going into the merits of the question, I say that the Council should not do so. But as to the merits, the amendment simply says in more words what is already said in the sections of the Bill as they stand. I can see no necessity for, nor advantage in, making this change.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said in reply:—The hon. member has himself proved my case; nobody is liable to pay for carriages and animals which, though used in Calcutta, are not kept in Calcutta. As to the rest, the alteration is a very substantial one, and is made both in the interests of the persons concerned and the License Department of the Municipality. Hitherto persons not liable to pay the tax were not liable to send in a statement. Not having sent in a statement, the person is prosecuted on the supposition that he is liable to the tax; he then claims exemption under one of the clauses of section 77. The object is to compel every one who owns or has in charge a carriage or animal to send in a statement, in which he should set forth the ground upon which he is exempted from liability to payment.

The Hon. Mr. Reynolds said:—I do not quite understand whether the hon. member means that a person who is prosecuted is not to be allowed to set up the defence that he is exempted from the tax, unless he previously sends in a statement.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—There is no intention to do so; but persons cannot then complain, as they do now, of having been molested.

The Motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 5.	*Noes* 7.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.	The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.	The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
His Honour the President.	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.

So the Motion was negatived.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison moved that, for section 79, the following be substituted:—

"Whenever any person shall pay to the Commissioners the amount of the tax which shall be payable by him for the current half-year in respect of all carriages and animals kept in Calcutta, the Commissioners shall grant to such person a license to keep such carriages and animals during that half-year.

A license may at any time be granted for any previous half-year for which no license has been taken out on payment of the amount due for that half-year.

But the production of such license shall not afford a valid defence, if the licensee is prosecuted for failing to take out a license within the time required by this Act."

He said:—This is only a verbal amendment by the addition of the last clause; for the rest, the section has been shortened in the wording. So far from these sections having been discussed and re-discussed in Select Committee, my difficulty has been that I have never been able to get as much assistance in the settlement of this chapter of the Bill as in the others. The part relating to the trades and professions license, which is full of pitfalls, was passed by the Committee almost without a word. I cannot, however, complain that the Select Committee had sufficient confidence in me to adopt it on my responsibility, but the result has been that it has not been considered, and I think it better, even at the last moment, to bring forward these amendments.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter said:—If I understand this amendment rightly, one point is this, that if a person takes out a license in November, and he is prosecuted in December, still because there has been default for a certain number of days, he will be liable to prosecution. I will refer to a case which happened a short time ago. A member of the Bar was prosecuted for not having taken out a license, but it appeared that he had taken out a license. [His Honour the President—After the prosecution was instituted.] I cannot say personally whether it was so or not in that case, but I believe that many cases of that sort have happened. When parties were prosecuted they produced their respective licenses in Court, and the Magistrate dismissed the cases, remarking that the license officer had failed in his duty. I think that if a person, before prosecution, takes out a license, he should not be prosecuted. If the section is allowed to remain in its proposed form, it will be quite possible, notwithstanding the statement of the Chairman to the contrary, that such a person will still be liable to prosecution, and I think that is not desirable. I still hold the opinion that when a prosecution has been set on foot, the Commissioners should not treat the prosecution as a farce, take the money, and then allow the prosecution to be struck out: the case should be prosecuted to a conclusion. That is in respect of persons who take out licenses after prosecution. But where a person has taken out a license before a prosecution is instituted, it will be a very harsh proceeding that he should be prosecuted for the lapse of a few days; and that can be done under the wording of this amendment.

The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee said:—I think the last clause of the proposed section is objectionable on another ground. It is wholly unnecessary, because section 80 provides that, whoever owns, or is in charge of, any carriage or animal without the required license shall be liable to a fine. The mere fact of owning a carriage or animal without a license makes the person liable to a fine.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said in reply:—The objection which has been taken on the question of principle is not a new one. The Bill already provides that a license may be granted for a previous year. The prosecution will not be brought until the person who is liable to the tax has neglected for the whole of the period to take out a license. After that, if the Commissioners think it right to prosecute, then the prosecution ought not to be dropped, because the

person has subsequently taken out a license. But take the case of a person being prosecuted; he promptly runs to the office and takes out a license. That I say should not be allowed. I do not think I know a case more in point than that of Mr. Roy. After the prosecution was instituted he takes out a license in the name of Roy, he being prosecuted in the name of Raye. The license officer thinking the name of Raye to be an English name, when questioned, said the license was not taken out; and notwithstanding those facts the view of the Court was that it was a most scandalous prosecution, and the license officer was fined Rs. 25. I cannot conceive a more erroneous feeling than that which animated the Courts with regard to the License Inspector as a wrong-doer. Soon after that case we had a precisely similar one, and the charge was dismissed. In a precisely similar case in England, the defaulter admitted that the license was omitted to be taken out, but for not nearly so long a period. A prosecution was instituted simply on the ground that the time for taking out a license had lapsed. In that case the prosecution was instituted after the license had been taken out and was produced, and that showed the widely different view taken of the matter in England. I maintain that the principle of this amendment is a very important one.

The Motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 5.	*Noes* 7.
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.	The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
His Honour the President.	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.

So the Motion was negatived.

The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee moved that, for section 80, the following be substituted:—

"Whoever owns, or is in charge of, any carriage or animal without the required license shall be liable to fine not exceeding three times the amount payable by him in respect of such license, and not being less than such amount. And such fine shall, when levied, be taken in full satisfaction of the demand on account of such license."

He said:—I move this because I think it unnecessary and undesirable to provide by law a minimum amount of fine in so far as such fine is a penalty and not merely in liquidation of the demand of the Municipality. The section in the Bill provides that the minimum amount of fine shall be one-and-a-half times such amount, so that, whenever there is a prosecution, in addition to a fine being imposed to the amount of the license fee, a further fine of half the amount at least will have to be imposed. That I think is unnecessary and undesirable. It ought to be left to the discretion of the Court to say whether the penalty part of the fine is to be substantial or nominal, or no amount at all. We need not tie the hands of the Court.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter said:—The next amendment which stands in my name is on the same lines. I am quite willing that the amendment should be in the terms of the amendment just moved, and I shall withdraw the amendment on section 80 of which I gave notice.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—We find by experience that the Magistrates almost invariably impose no fine at all, and this reduces the matter to a farce. If the section contained in the latter part of the Bill, authorizing the Government to appoint a Magistrate to try municipal cases is agreed to, then the amendment now before the Council will be of minor importance; but as things stand, whenever the Municipality depends upon prosecutions for the recovery of its revenue, it is simply paralysed. From all departments of the Municipality the same cry arises. The leniency of the Court is so great that it is absolutely no sanction at all, and the Act becomes a dead-letter. The same difficulty occurred in reference to non-registered coolies in the municipal market, the Magistrates having inflicted fines of only one or two annas. The minimum fine is introduced to prevent the systematic omission to take out licenses.

The Motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 4.

The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.

Noes 8.

The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved that the second clause of section 84 be omitted. He said:—The second clause of this section provides that if the Commissioners at any time find any carriage or animal in respect of which no license has been obtained, the Commissioners may, if the person entitled to the possession of such carriage or animal is unknown, by a written order authorize any of their subordinate officers to take possession of such carriage or animal. This is a new provision: it does not exist in the present Act. A power of this kind is objectionable, because in the first place it may be resorted to when there may be no necessity to have recourse to it. It is the duty of the Inspectors who are appointed by the Commissioners to find out the owner of the carriage, and they will have very little difficulty in doing so if they go to work properly. Whenever there might be the least difficulty, there would be a written order authorizing such officer to take possession; the carriage and horse will be placed elsewhere, and expense will be thrown upon the owner. The Commissioners enjoy plenary powers in this matter; they can prosecute and have offenders fined; all they have to do is to prove their case. In order to justify a change of the law on this subject, it will be necessary for the Commissioners to make out a very strong case, and to show that they suffer loss of a considerable amount of revenue from want of a power of this kind. I am not aware that any considerable amount of revenue is lost on this ground; it may be that a very small sum has been lost, but that will not justify the grant of this extraordinary power to seize property for non-payment of license fees. I think the provision is erroneous in principle. It will be practically attachment of property without the decree of a competent Court. When a fine is levied by the Magistrate, the Court has power to seize the carriage or animal, and have it sold in realisation of the fine, and further the Commissioners have power to sue and obtain a decree and attach the property. But to be allowed to seize property without having recourse to any of these methods, simply because the Inspector has not been able to find the owner, is asking a great deal too much. If proper exertions are made, the officer ought to be able to find the owner or the person in charge of the carriage or animal. A carriage or a horse must be in charge of some one, and there should be little difficulty in finding out in whose possession the carriage or horse is. That being so, a prosecution can be instituted and a fine levied, but to have recourse to such exceptional legislation is unnecessary and undesirable, and I am afraid that if this provision is passed into law the power thereby conferred will be very largely used without proper enquiry being made to find out the owner. I have also to point out that as such provision does not exist in the present law, I am therefore strongly opposed to it.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—This is a very good illustration of the enormous difference with which the law is regarded, according as it affects the rich and the poor. Let me refer the Council to section 98. That section authorises the Commissioners to seize and detain any unregistered cart, and to sell the same if not claimed within ten days. Here there is no necessity for a written order, and the police, moreover, are required to assist in the seizure. The owner of the cart may be there, and may be willing to pay the license fee. Now observe the extremely small power which we ask for with regard to carriages and animals. The reason for this provision has not been stated by my hon. friend. It is to meet a difficulty which is very great in finding out, in a chummery, for instance, or any place where many persons reside, who is the owner of a carriage or animal found there. The license officer prosecutes, but has no evidence; and if he does produce evidence, he is probably misinformed.

It is one of those powers which if granted is its own remedy. If the Inspector cannot find to whom a carriage or horse belongs, he can apply to the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and explain the circumstances; and if the explanation is satisfactory, an order will be issued. Where is the hardship of attaching the property: the owner or person in charge has nothing to do but to pay the amount of the license fee? This is a curious illustration of the remark I have made before, that the Commissioners themselves are not anxious to be vested with powers: it is one of the curious illustrations of the working of the municipality in Calcutta. I submit that the power is a very reasonable one and should be granted.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—In the very section to which my hon. friend has referred, the order of the Magistrate has to be obtained before the cart can be sold: whereas in the section under consideration there is no such provision. Besides, there is a great distinction between a carriage or horse and a cart As regards the one, there may be difficulty in ascertaining the owner or the person in charge; in regard to the other, there should be no difficulty whatever. If the Inspectors did their duty, there should not be the slightest difficulty to find out who the owner or the person in charge of a carriage or animal is.

The Motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 4.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. H. Pratt.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon H. J. Reynolds.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived:—

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, in line 9 of section 85, for the words "establishes his claim" the words "satisfies the Commissioners that he is entitled" be substituted.

He said:—This is only a verbal amendment.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON also moved that, in the second paragraph of section 88, for the words "next after the day of the granting thereof, and no longer" the words "of that year" be substituted.

He said:—This is also a verbal amendment.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, for section 90, the following be substituted:—

"Whoever exercises any trade, profession or calling without the license required by section eighty-seven, on or after the first day of July in any year, shall be liable to a fine not exceeding three times the amount payable by him in respect of such license, and not being less than such amount. And such fine shall, when levied, be taken in full satisfaction of the demand on account of such license."

He said:—My reasons for this amendment are similar to those which I urged in support of the amendment I moved in section 80. Among the hon. members here present there are some who exercise professions and callings, and have to take out licenses, and I put it to them to say how far they have been strictly punctual in taking out their licenses. I do not mean to encourage want of punctuality or to suggest that in any case they have failed to take out their licenses on due date in wilful disregard of the law, still there have probably been instances where, from forgetfulness or other cause, there may have been delays, and I say that the Courts, and not we here, are the best judges as to what penalty, if any, should be inflicted in each case. We have been told by the hon. member in charge of the Bill that the Magistrates who decide these cases generally act too leniently. If the Courts are badly constituted, the remedy lies not in making the law too severe, but in the remodelling of the Courts.

The HON. MOULVIE ABDUL JUBBAR, in supporting the motion, said :—I know many cases in which persons who are prosecuted have failed to pay their license fees simply on account of poverty, and in such cases I do not think it is proper that the hands of the Magistrate should be tied by hard-and-fast rules: he should be left to exercise his own discretion in each case.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said :—I also think that the imposition of a penalty and the amount of it should be left to the discretion of the Court; and as the Bill provides for the appointment of a special officer for the trial of municipal cases, I hope there will be no more further cause for complaint.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said :—It will be obviously a one-horse arrangement if we accept this amendment for this part of this chapter when we have rejected a similar amendment for an earlier part of the same chapter.

The Motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 5.	*Noes* 7.
The Hon. H. Pratt.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, in section 91, for the words "the names of all persons residing in such house" the words "the names of all male persons residing, or carrying on any trade, profession or calling in such house" be substituted.

He said :—I move this amendment, because I am told that there the native community have an objection to give the names of the female members of their families.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, for the last paragraph of section 96, the following be substituted :—

"The total net proceeds of the fees half-yearly received by the Commissioners for the registration of carts, after reduction of the charges incurred on account of such registration, shall be divided between the municipalities of Calcutta and Howrah, and such other municipalities adjacent to Calcutta and Howrah as the Local Government shall declare to be entitled to a share in such receipts, in such proportion as the Local Government may from time to time determine."

He said :—The present rule is to deduct the charges incurred for registration before dividing the proceeds; but that condition has been omitted from the section. The object of the amendment is to supply the omission.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The consideration of the further clauses of the Bill was postponed till the next sitting of the Council.

The Council was adjourned to Thursday, the 12th April 1888.

CALCUTTA;
The 24th April 1888.

C. H. REILY,
Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
Legislative Dept.

RESOLUTION REGARDING THE TOURS OF DISTRICT AND SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICERS.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—MISCELLANEOUS.

Calcutta, the 21st April 1888.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

Correspondence regarding the tours of District and Sub-divisional Officers.

In the Resolution on the General Administration Report of the Presidency Division for the year 1877-78, the Government of Bengal directed that the tours of Sub-divisional Officers should extend to at least four months' duration, instead of three months, the period formerly fixed. The change has never been accepted as altogether beneficial; and in reviewing the results of the year 1886-87, Mr. Wilson, the late Officiating Commissioner of Burdwan, and Mr. Oldham, the Magistrate of that district, represented that the period, which Collectors were, under the orders in force, bound to spend in the interior of their districts, was ninety days; that, if properly spent, it is sufficient for the necessary work of inspection; and that a more prolonged absence from head-quarters often interferes very seriously with the trial of criminal and other cases by Sub-divisional Officers. Upon receiving this report, the Lieutenant-Governor invited an expression of the opinion of the other Commissioners of Divisions, at the same time directing that full compliance with the orders under consideration need not be insisted on during the cold-weather season which has recently expired.

2. The replies to this circular show that the Commissioners are unanimous in considering that the tours of Sub-divisional Officers may be curtailed with advantage. The Lieutenant-Governor is accordingly pleased to direct, in supersession of all former orders, that in future these tours shall not, without special sanction, be of shorter duration than ninety days. If any Commissioner considers that in the case of a very small sub-division, such as Barrackpore, Dum-Dum, or Uluberia, the tour of the Sub-divisional Officer need not be so extensive, he should report upon the matter for separate orders. Collectors frequently extend their tours beyond the period required by rule, and it is expected that Sub-divisional Officers will do so also, when the public interests require it, and particularly when they first take charge of a sub-division. Commissioners may also prescribe longer tours when, for any special reason, it seems necessary to adopt such a course.

3. Complaints are frequently made that Sub-divisional Officers so arrange their work as to render it necessary for large parties of mukhtars and clerks to follow their camps. It may not always be possible to avoid this inconvenience, but it should be distinctly recognised that the attendance of a number of persons from head-quarters, having no concern in the work of inspection, is injurious to the objects with which these tours are undertaken. Sub-divisional Officers should endeavour to do as much of their regular case work as possible at head-quarters, employing themselves while on tour in making local enquiries. The utility of a Sub-divisional Officer's tour for inspection purposes, and the extent to which it can be carried without interruption to business, or inconvenience to the public, must depend greatly on the skill with which it is planned: the object in view can be obtained only by very careful arrangements, distributing the time to be spent in the interior between the different seasons of the year, and avoiding any very protracted absence from head-quarters.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

P. NOLAN,

Secretary to the Govt of Bengal.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE SURPLUS INCOME AND ACCUMULATED BALANCE OF THE MOHSIN FUND.

GENERAL DEPARTMENT—EDUCATION.

Calcutta, the 23rd April 1888.

RESOLUTION.

READ the following papers on the subject of the application of the unappropriated surplus and balance of the Mohsin Endowment Fund :—

Letter to the Director of Public Instruction, No. 706, dated the 15th September, 1887.
Letter from the Director of Public Instruction, No. 418, dated the 23rd January, 1888.
Letter from the Director of Public Instruction, No. 911, dated the 15th February, 1888.
Letter from the Director of Public Instruction, No. 1015, dated the 18th February, 1888.

The Lieutenant-Governor has ascertained with pleasure that the Muhammadan endowment founded by Haji Muhammad Mohsin in 1806, and which, so far as the funds devoted to secular purposes are concerned, has been under the management of Government since 1817, possesses an annual income of at least five thousand rupees in excess of the expenditure at present sanctioned, and a surplus balance of Rs. 51,674. The proceeds of the endowment, after the requirements of a religious establishment at Hooghly have been met, are devoted to the maintenance of Madrassas, the support of teachers of Persian and Arabic at English schools, the award of scholarships to promising Muhammadan students, and the payment of two-thirds of the fees of Muhammadan pupils in all Calcutta Colleges, public or private, and in a certain number of Government zillah schools. The following statement shows the amount sanctioned for each of these purposes during the year 1886-87 :—

	Rs.
Maintenance of Madrassas	27,086
Salaries of Moulvies in high schools	6,044
Scholarships	10,260
Short-fee payments	11,672
Total ...	55,962

2. From the surplus income, the Lieutenant-Governor, after consultation with the Director of Public Instruction, sanctions an additional grant of Rs. 1,200 a year to the Madrassa at Chittagong, the most numerously attended institution of its class in Bengal, and one of the most successful; also Rs. 626 a year on account of the classes of the Rajshahye College, in which Persian and Arabic are taught, and Rs. 50 a year to the Hooghly Madrassa. The grant for paying two-thirds of the fees of pupils at specified Government schools will be increased by Rs. 2,450, the following institutions receiving grants, or increased grants, for the purpose :—

NAME OF INSTITUTION.	From Government. Per annum.	Grant now sanctioned. Per annum.
	Rs.	Rs.
Patna College and School	700	1,200
Patna City School	500	500
Cuttack College and School	700	850
Calcutta Colleges	3,160	3,160
Barasat Zillah School	600	600
Hooghly College and Collegiate Schools	2,210	2,210
Midnapore College and School	500	500
Rajshahye College and School	700	700
Dacca ditto ditto	800	800
Chittagong ditto ditto	700	700
Krishnaghur ditto ditto	420	420
Berhampore ditto ditto	250	350
Bogra Zillah School	680	680
Rungpore ditto	200	200
Pubna ditto	320	320
Maldah ditto	120	120
Purneah ditto	40	40
Furreedpore ditto	200	200
Burrisal ditto	390	390
Mymensingh ditto	500	500
Comillah ditto	440	440
Moukholly ditto	360	360
Jessore ditto	160	[illegible]
Barrackpore ditto	.....	[illegible]
Beerbhoom ditto	.....	300
Dinagepore ditto	.....	250
Balasore ditto	.....	250
Bankoora ditto	.....	200
Tamluk ditto	.....	150
Cuttack ditto	.....	160
Total ...	14,660	17,100

3. The Education Commission recommended that assistance from this fund should not be limited to Government schools, but extended to private institutions also, as has been done with regard to Colleges. In order that a beginning may be made in this direction, a sum of Rs. 700 a year will be placed at the disposal of the Director of Public Instruction for the purpose of making such grants. Sir Steuart Bayley attaches the greatest importance to the extension of the system under which two-thirds of the fees of Muhammadan students are paid at certain schools, considering that in no other way can the limited means available be used with so much effect for the purpose of assisting Muhammadans in the efforts they are now making to raise their educational position, and thereby to render their children fit to take a more adequate share in the administration of the country and in the practice of the learned professions. Future proposals for using any further surplus income which may accrue to the endowment should be made with reference to this consideration. It must, however, be remembered by school managers that the sum now made over to the Director of Public Instruction is sufficient to enable him to assist a few institutions only, the selection of these being left to his discretion. The total assignment from the annual income is as follows :—

	Per annum. Rs.
Increase in the grant to the Chittagong Madrassa ...	1,200
Increase in the grant to the Persian and Arabic classes in the Rajshahye College	626
Increase in the grant for the payment of two-thirds fees of Muhammadan students in Government Schools and Colleges	2,450
Increase in the grant to the Hooghly Madrassa	50
Total ...	4,326

4. Of the accumulated balance, Rs. 25,000 will be invested in Government securities, and the rest will be assigned as follows :—

	Rs.
Construction of a new building for the use of the Superintendent of the Chittagong Madrassa	12,000
Substitution of corrugated iron roofing for the thatched roofs of the cook-rooms and out-offices of the Chittagong Madrassa	1,400
Repairs to verandahs, drains, roads and fences of the Chittagong Madrassa	1,500
Erection of a new building, partly as an addition to the hostel of the Arabic and Persian classes of the Rajshahye College, and partly to serve as a class room	8,000
Acquisition of land for the erection of the new building for the Arabic and Persian classes of the Rajshahye College, and in order to get rid of an unsightly and insanitary bustee ...	3,200
Total ...	26,100

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

P. NOLAN,

Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the crops in the different districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 21st April 1888.

No.	District and date of return	Rainfall at Sudder Stations in inches.	Character of the weather and state and prospects of the crops.
	BENGAL.		
	Western Districts.		
	Burdwan Div.		
1	Burdwan Apl. 21, '88	Nil	Weather—hot with violent east winds. Rain is much wanted for the summer crop. No other crops on the ground. Price of common rice has further fallen to nearly 23 seers per rupee on an average.
2	Bankoora „ 21, '88	0·20	Weather—sultry. Indigo, cotton and *til* thriving. Planting of sugarcane continues. No change in the rice market.
3	Beerbhoom „ 21, '88	0·12	Weather—intensely hot till 20th, when a storm cooled the air. No crops on the ground. Rain wanted for the mangoes.
4	Midnapur „ 21, '88	0·03	A small nor'-wester on the evening of 20th; moderately hot. *Boro* is being reaped. Rain is much wanted in the north and west of the district.
5	Hooghly „ 21, '88	0·14	Weather—very hot, stormy since 20th. Rain much wanted for crops and for ploughing.
	Howrah „ 23, '88	0·01	Weather—warm days, cool nights. State and prospects of crops good.
	Central Districts.		
	Presidency Div.		
6	24-Pergns. Apl. 24, '88		Weather—unsettled with high winds. No crops on the ground except sugarcane, which is doing well. Lands are being prepared for cultivation of rice and jute crops.
7	Nuddea „ 21, '88	0·86	Weather—very sultry; wind high and stormy. Rain has fallen in Kooshtea and the Sudder sub-division and has done much good. It is urgently wanted elsewhere. Tillage for *bhadoi* progressing. Indigo and sugarcane good.
	Kooshtea ...	0·60	
8	Khoolna „ 21, '88	0·79	Weather—warm with bright sun and south breeze; sky overclouded with light rain during the last three evenings. *Boro* rice promises well. Rain wanted for cultivation.
9	Jessore „ 21, '88	1·14	Weather—hot, except in the latter end of the week, when rain fell. Rain will be beneficial to sowings.
	Magoorah ...	1·11	
	Narail ...	0·25	
10	Moorshedabad „ 21, '88	1·25	Weather—cloudy and cooler. A heavy shower with high wind on 20th in the Sudder sub-division. Sowing of early rice going on. Rain has come in time to assist cultivation of early rice and indigo.
	Rajshahye Div.		
11	Dinagepur Apl. 21, '88	Nil	Blowing up for rain. *Bhadoi* and jute sowings have germinated. Cultivation of sugarcane in progress. Showers of rain wanted.
	Thakurgaon ...	0·26	
12	Rajshahye „ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—very hot till 20th, now cloudy and cooler. Rain still holds off, and *boro* paddy, jute, *aus* and *aman* are all suffering.
13	Rungpur „ 21, '88	0·09	Weather—cool and cloudy. Rain has fallen over a considerable portion of the district and has improved prospects.
	Nilphamari ...	1·40	
	Gaibanda ...	0·30	
14	Bogra „ 21, '88	Nil	High hot winds, except during last two days when winds changed to east. Winds still high. Thermometer dropped 10°. State and prospects of crops good, but rain wanted.
15	Pubna „ 21, '88	0·25	Weather—hot in daytime, but cool at night; stormy. State and prospects of crops good.
16	Darjeeling „ 21, '88	0·09	Weather—warm. Rain fell locally, but is believed to have been general. No reports from the interior. Prospects of the crops good. Prices the same as last week.
17	Julpigoree „ 21, '88	Nil	Easterly wind blew continually throughout the week. *Bhadoi* paddy and jute are being sown. Rice sells at 21 seers per rupee at head-quarters.
	Eastern Districts.		
	Dacca Division		
18	Dacca Apl. 21, '88	2·44	Weather—mostly cloudy with high wind. *Aus* and *aman* paddy and jute are being sown. Harvesting of *boro* paddy commenced. Recent rain and storms have done some damage to *boro* paddy. On the whole prospects of crops good.
	Munshigunge ...	0·10	
	Naraingunge ...	1·15	
19	Furreedpur „ 21, '88	1·88	Weather—seasonable. Rain has fallen, but more is wanted. Lands are being ploughed for jute and paddy.
	Goalundo ...	0·26	
	Madaripur ...	0·44	
20	Backergunge „ 20, '88	Nil	Weather—very hot. Prospects of crops good. Rain wanted.
21	Mymensingh „ 20, '88	Nil	Weather—cloudy; very hot. State and prospects of crops good. Rain wanted for cultivation.
	Jamalpur ...	0·2	
	Kishoregunge ...	1·15	
	Netrokona ...	0·17	
	Chittagong Div.		
22	Chittagong Apl. 24, '88	2·88	Weather—unsettled. A severe storm on 17th. Lands are being prepared for *aus* crop. Prices steady.
23	Noakholly „ 20, '88	0·66	Weather—cloudy and stormy. Sowing of *aus* continues. Harvesting of *rabi* crops nearly completed.
	Fenny ...	0·72	
24	Tipperah „ 19, '88	0·01	Weather—cloudy, with some rain at head-quarters, comparatively cool. The few standing crops there are give promise of good outturn. Rain, wherever it has fallen, has promoted agricultural operations.
25	Chittagong Hill Tracts. „ 18, '88	0·59	Strong, steady, south-westerly gale throughout the week, interrupted on the 17th by a north-westerly rotatory storm which has cooled the air. Jum burning still going on. Gathering of winter crops almost finished. Planting of sugarcane continues.
	Hill Tipperah „ 18, '88	0·02	Weather—cloudy and unsettled. Early rice is being sown. Lands are being prepared for sugarcane.

No.	District and date of return.		Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather and state and prospects of the crops.
BEHAR.				
Patna Div.				
26	Patna	Apl. 21, '88	Nil	Weather—dry and sultry. *Rabbi* threshing and opium weighment going on. *Boro* rice in some places on deserted lands promises well. Prices of food-grains almost stationary.
27	Gya	„ 00, '88		Report not received.
■	Shahabad	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—hot; west wind has abated; easterly wind prevailing for the last three days. *Rabbi* threshing almost completed; outturn fair. Sugarcane is being irrigated. Opium weighments are over; outturn not so good as expected.
29	Durbhunga	„ 21, '88	Nil	East wind prevailing. Rain much wanted for *moong* and paddy sowings, which however, still look promising. Indigo is doing well. Price of common rice averages 21 seers per rupee.
30	Mozufferpur	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—hot with high east wind. Paddy, *moong* and *cheena* thriving. Threshing of *rabbi* crops in progress.
31	Sarun	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Indigo doing well. Preparation of fields for *bhadoi* and *aghani* will shortly be taken up. Sugarcane is being irrigated. *Cheena* coming up well. Opium weighments progressing satisfactorily.
32	Chumparun	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—hot with varying winds. Threshing of *rabbi* crops coming to a close. Sowing of *aghani* on low lands commenced in the Bettiah sub-division. Weighments of opium in full progress. Prospects of all standing crops good.
Bhagulpore Div.				
33	Monghyr	Apl. 21, '88	Nil	Weather—hot and sultry; east wind prevailing since last four days. Threshing of *rabbi* crops still going on. Preparation of lands for *bhadoi* crops has commenced in places.
34	Bhagulpur	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—at first hot with west wind, now cooler with wind from the east and cloudy. *Rabbi* crops being threshed. Rain wanted for rice, *moong*, and sugarcane.
35	Purneah	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—seasonable; east winds prevailing, indication of rain. Rain would be good to early rice and jute seedlings
36	Maldah	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—hot and oppressive with clouds and east winds. *Boro* paddy still doing well. *Bhadoi* sowings going on. Rain much wanted for these and other standing crops, such as jute, *moong*, &c., the sowing of which has been finished in low lands in north of the district. Common rice selling at an average of 23½ seers per rupee.
37	Sonthal Pergha	„ 24, '88	0·43	Winds westerly, changing to south and east with clouds; very little rain. Sugarcane in Godda and *boro dhan* in Rajmehal doing well. Rain wanted for sugarcane in Deoghur. *Mohua* has been a bad crop.
ORISSA.				
Orissa Div.				
38	Cuttack	Apl. 20, '88	Nil	Mornings cool; evenings cool with high winds; mid-days extremely hot. Ploughing for *beali* and *sarad* rice stopped for want of rain. Rice is sold at 21 seers per rupee in town.
39	Pooree	„ 19, '88	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Land is being ploughed. *Dalua* crop is being harvested. Mango is beginning to ripen. Common rice selling at 21 seers 1 chittack per rupee in the Sudder sub-division, and 23 seers 11 chittacks in the Khoorda sub-division.
40	Balasore	„ 20, '88	Nil	Weather—very hot. *Kulai* and cotton being harvested. Cultivation of land retarded by want of rain.
CHOTA NAGPORE.				
South-West Frontier Agency.				
Chota Nagpore Div.				
41	Hazaribagh.	Apl. 20, '88	Nil	Weather—very hot with stormy west winds. Sugarcane doing well. Mango promising. *Mohua* has yielded fairly except in some places. No other crops.
42	Lohardugga	„ 21, '88	Nil	Weather—very warm with strong west wind. *Mohua* gathering almost over. No crops on the ground to report on. Price of rice has a tendency to rise.
43	Singbhoom	„ 20, '88	Nil	Weather—very hot; thermometer 110° in the shade. Cloudy to-day (20th). Only sugarcane and cotton on ground, both reported to be doing well. Mango expected to be an 8-annas crop only.
44	Manbhoom	„ 2[illegible], '88	Nil	Weather—very hot. Wind has shifted to the east. Sugarcane is being planted. Cotton pods bursting; probable outturn 12 annas.

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, REVENUE DEPT.;
The 24th April 1888.

P. NOLAN,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (*RETAIL*) OF FOOD-GRAINS, FIREWOOD AND SALT IN THE HEAD-QUARTER STATION BAZARS OF THE DISTRICTS OF BENGAL DURING THE FORTNIGHT ENDING THE 15TH APRIL 1868.

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains, Firewood and Salt in the

Number.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN																		
		WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLU (*Sorghum Vulgare.*)		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
	BENGAL.															
	Western Districts.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
1	Burdwan ...	14 8	16 0	14 7	40 0	30 0	33 16	18 15	18 15	19 8	21 [illegible]	24 [illegible]	24 [illegible]	...	...	...
2	Bankoora ...	16 0	15 0	15 8	20 0	20 0	20 0	19 8	19 8	19 8	21 6	22 0	14 0	...	...	...
3	Beerbhoom ...	16 8	16 8	20 4	...	...	...	[illegible] 8	15 0	20 0	21 12	21 12	24 [illegible]	...	...	...
4	Midnapore ...	17 0	15 0	17 8	40 0	45 [illegible]	...	19 8	20 0	20 0	27 0	28 0	26 0	...	...	...
5	Hooghly ...	14 0	14 0	14 0	...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 0	17 8	17 0	18 0	...	...	...
	Howrah ...	14 4	...	...	...	...	...	14 8	14 4	13 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	...	...	...
	Central Districts.															
	Calcutta ...	14 0	13 0	15 0	24 3	19 8	21 0	11 15	11 12	9 5	18 4	18 5	19 6	16 8	16 2	21 0
6	24-Pergunnahs ...	18 0	17 8	13 8	22 0	22 8	22 8	8 0	8 0	8 0	19 0	20 0	18 12	...	...	...
7	Nuddea ...	[illegible] 6	16 8	16 0	26 10½	33 [illegible]	32 0	14 8	14 8	18 0	18 14	18 14	19 0	...	...	...
8	Khoolna ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	21 0	21 0	18 0	23 0	23 0	22 0	...	...	...
9	Jessore ...	14 0	13 4	16 0	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	16 0	25 8	24 10	14 0	...	...	...
10	Moorshedabad ...	16 0	16 0	15 [illegible]	...	...	...	17 8	17 0	16 0	23 0	23 0	23 [illegible]	...	...	...
11	Dinagepore .	16 0	18 0	16 0	...	21 0	22 0	21 4	18 4	21 0	25 0	22 8	26 0	...	...	...
12	Rajshahye ...	20 10	17 4	17 4	45 0	45 0	40 0	18 0	18 0	16 0	22 8	22 8	22 8	...	...	...
13	Rungpore ...	13 4	13 4	22 8	...	...	...	13 4	13 4	22 8	21 0	20 0	24 10	...	...	...
14	Bogra ...	15 9	15 0	16 8	...	...	...	16 8	15 0	13 0	25 4	26 4	24 0	...	...	...
15	Pulna ...	20 4	20 0	21 0	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	8 0	21 12	21 12	21 0	...	...	...
16	Darjeeling ...	10 0	10 0	10 0	11 0	11 0	12 0	5 0	5 0	[illegible] 0	14 0	14 0	12 0	...	...	...
17	Julpigoree ...	12 0	12 0	10 0	20 0	20 0	20 0	13 0	14 0	18 0	20 0	21 0	26 0	...	...	...
	Eastern Districts.															
18	Dacca ...	14 8	14 8	14 0	47 0	40 0	28 0	19 8	19 8	17 0	23 0	26 0	19 4	...	...	...
19	Furreedpore ...	16 0	20 0	26 0	40 8	40 0	32 0	16 0	16 0	18 8	20 0	24 0	32 0	...	...	...
20	Backergunge ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	16 0	16 0	17 0	20 8	20 4	19 0	...	...	...
21	Mymensingh ...	13 12	13 12	11 8	...	...	...	12 0	18 0	19 0	18 8	18 8	16 0	...	...	...

A At Culna and Ranegunge retail price of salt 10½ seers per rupee.
B At Bishenpore retail price of salt 11 seers per rupee.
C At Rampore Haut retail price of salt 11½ seers per rupee.
D In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Ghattal 11 seers, and Tumlook and Contai 8 seers.
E In sub divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were :—[illegible] 11 seers and Jehanabad 10½ seers.
E1 In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Berasat [illegible], Basirhat 9 seers, Diamond Harbour [illegible] Barrackpore 8½ seers, and Dum-Dum 10 seers.
F In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were :—Kooshtea 10 seers, Meherpore and Chuadanga [illegible] 9½ seers.
G At Gaibandha retail price of salt Rs. [illegible] per rupee.
H In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were :—[illegible]

SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

Bajra or Cumbu. (*Pennisetum typhoideum.*)			Marua or Ragi. (*Eleusine Coracana.*)		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
...	...	..	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	..
	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	..	...	...	...
..	...		...	...	...
14 8	14 6	16 8	...	...	...
...	...	..	...	...	...
...	...	..	...	...	...
...	...	.	...	...	...
...	...		...	...	...
...	...	..	...	..	...
...	...	..	...	...	...
...	.		...	...	...
...	...	..	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...		...	...	...
...	...	...	14 0	14 0	12 0
...	...	..	-	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...

Kangi or Kakun. Italian Millet. (*Setaria italica.*)						Gram, Chana, Chhola, Kadalay, or Sunaga. (*Cicer arietinum.*)					
Present return.		Next preceding return.		Corresponding return of last year.		Present return.		Next preceding return.		Corresponding return of last year.	
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...		...		...		25	8	25	8	24	0
...		...		...		19	0	16	0	19	8
...		...		...		26	4	25	0	26	8
...		...		...		18	0	17	0	17	12
...		...		...		19	0	19	0	19	0
...		...				21	8	21	0	23	8
12	12	12	4	17	0	22	0	21	4	19	12
15	0	16	0	...		23	8	22	12	20	0
...		...		...		26	10½	26	10½	30	8
...		...		...		16	0	16	0	16	0
...		...		...		27	0	22	8	23	[illegible]
...		...		...		27	0	26	0	29	[illegible]
...		...		...		18	0	15	12	19	0
...		...		...		26	4	24	0	27	0
...		...		...		16	0	16	0	20	0
...		...		...		15	0	15	0	16	12
...		...		...		30	4	26	4	27	8
...		...		...		11	0	11	0	10	0
...		...		...		16	0	16	0	18	0
...		...		...		16	0	16	0	14	0
...		...		...		14	0	18	0	23	0
...		...		...		13	0	13	0	16	0
...		...		...		13	4	13	8	15	0

Head-quarter Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 15th April 1888.

Indian-corn or Maize (*Zea Mays.*)			Arhar or Tur Cajan Pea. (*Cajanus indicus.*)			Firewood.			Salt.			Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Salt.			Districts.
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
															BENGAL.
															Western Districts.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	
...	...	...	24 0	24 10	18 4	120 0	120 0	120 0	A 10 7½	10 8	13 4	3 11 0	3 8 0	2 15 0	Burdwan.
32 8	32 0	40 0	20 8	20 8	22 8	320 0	320 0	280 0	B 10 8	10 8	12 8	3 11 0	3 11 0	3 3 0	Bankoora.
...	...	...	16 8	16 8	16 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	C 10 8	10 0	12 4	3 6 0	3 4 0	3 1 0	Beerbhoom.
...	...	...	[illegible] 0	15 0	18 8	120 0	120 0	155 0	D 9 0	9 0	13 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 1 0	Midnapore.
...	...	...	13 0	13 0	18 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	E 9 0	9 0	13 0	4 6 0	4 6 0	3 0 0	Hooghly.
...	...	...	14 0	13 0	13 4	100 0	100 0	90 0	9 8	9 0	12 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 0 0	Howrah.
															Central Districts.
16 0	12 7	26 0	19 4	18 4	18 12	95 0	93 0	60 0	10 7	10 8	13 4	3 9 0	3 9 5	3 0 0	Calcutta.
...	20 0	26 8	20 0	21 4	17 8	120 0	80 0	100 0	F 10 0	10 0	13 0	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 15 0	24-Pergunnahs.
...	...	...	23 14	24 10	20 0	...	...	...	9 2	9 2	11 10½	4 0 [illegible]	4 [illegible] 0	3 0 [illegible]	Nuddea.
...	...	...	...	...	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	G 8 0	8 0	10 8	4 13 0	.....	3 12 0	Khoolna.
...	...	...	20 0	27 0	22 0	100 0	100 0	110 0	H 8 0	9 10	10 12	4 4 0	4 2 0	3 3 0	Jessore.
...	...	32 0	23 0	23 0	18 [illegible]	200 0	200 0	160 0	I 11 12	11 0	13 0	3 [illegible] 0	3 8 0	3 5 0	Moorshedabad.
...	...	...	10 6	16 0	...	160 0	160 0	160 0	H 9 12	9 12	12 4	4 0 0	4 [illegible] 0	3 4 0	Dinagepore.
...	...	...	17 8	16 0	17 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	J 9 12	9 0	12 0	3 13 4	4 0 0	3 4 0	Rajshahye.
...	...	...	9 0	9 0	8 10	120 0	120 0	120 [illegible]	K 8 10	8 10	10 5	4 10 0	4 10 0	3 8 0	Rungpore.
...	...	...	...	...	...	90 0	90 0	90 0	7 14	8 4	11 4	4 5 4	4 5 4	3 6 0	Bogra.
...	...	...	26 4	26 4	24 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	L 9 12	9 12	12 10	4 1 6	4 1 6	3 6 0	Pubna.
70 0	90 0	95 0	8 0	8 0	8 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	.....	.....	4 4 0	Darjeeling.
20 0	20 0	20 0	11 [illegible]	11 0	10 0	128 0	128 0	128 0	M 8 [illegible]	9 0	12 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 6 0	Julpigoree.
															Eastern Districts.
...	...	...	17 0	18 4	...	120 0	120 0	120 0	N 8 8	8 8	12 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 3 0	Dacca.
...	...	...	...	...	19 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	9 0	9 0	13 0	4 8 0	4 5 0	3 15 0	Furreedpore.
...	...	...	10 10	10 10	24 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	O 9 2	9 4	12 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 4 0	Backergunge.
...	...	...	10 [illegible]	...	16 0	...	...	...	P 9 10	8 8	12 0	4 1 8	4 2 0	3 5 [illegible]	Mymensingh.

I In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Jungipore 10½ seers, Lalbagh 10 seers, and Kandi 11 seers.
H At Tikkungoon retail price of salt 7 seers per rupee.
J In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Natore 9½ seers and Nowgong 8 seers.
K In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Kurigram 9½ seers, Gaibanda 7½ seers, and Nilphamari 9 seers.
L At Serajgunge retail price of salt 10½ seers per rupee.
M At Pathargatta in sub-division retail price of salt 8 seers per rupee.
N In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Manickgunge 8 seers, Moonshegunge 8½ seers, and Naraingunge 9 seers.
O In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Patuakhali 8 seers, Perozepore 9 seers, and Bhola 10½ seers.
P In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Kishoregunge 8 seers, Atmea 10 seers, Jamalpore 9½ seers, and Netrakona

PRICES-CURRENT (retail) of Food-grains, Firewood and Salt in the Head-quarter

Number.	DISTRICTS.	QUANTITIES PER RUPEE IN														
		WHEAT.			BARLEY.			RICE, BEST SORT.			RICE, COMMON.			JOWAR OR CHOLUM. (*Sorghum Vulgare.*)		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
	***Eastern Districts*—concluded.**															
		S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
22	Chittagong ...	11 0	11 8	■ 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	13 0	25 0	20 7	17 0	...	...	...
23	Noakholly ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30 0	30 0	30 0	30 0	24 0	29 0	...	...	...
24	Tipperah ...	12 8	12 8	12 4	...	...	...	17 8	17 8	14 1	25 0	25 0	18 6	...	...	...
25	Chittagong Hill Tracts.	...	...	...	...	...	...	14 8½	14 8½	13 6	16 0	16 0	15 0	...	...	...
	Hill Tipperah...	8 0	8 0	12 0	...	...	...	12 0	14 0	14 0	26 0	26 0	18 0	...	...	...
	BEHAR.															
26	Patna ...	20 8	20 0	18 8	26 0	30 0	32 0	11 8	11 8	11 8	21 0	30 8	25 0	26 0	26 0	26 0
27	Gya ...	17 0	17 8	17 0	26 0	25 0	32 0	10 0	10 0	9 4	18 0	18 0	19 8	...	...	...
28	Shahabad ...	18 ■	19 8	17 0	30 0	28 8	28 0	10 8	13 0	8 ■	■ 4	18 0	17 0	...	...	...
29	Durbhunga ...	20 12	16 0	18 4	30 12	28 0	33 0	13 0	12 0	13 3	10 12	20 ■	23 0	...	...	33 0
30	Mozufferpore ..	18 0	14 0	■ 0	28 0	30 0	30 0	12 0	12 0	12 8	18 0	20 0	22 0	...	...	...
31	Sarun ...	17 0	17 0	15 0	25 8	27 0	39 0	8 8	8 8	8 ■	20 12	20 12	22 0	...	...	...
32	Chumparun ...	11 8	11 0	17 8	30 0	30 0	35 0	8 0	8 0	7 8	20 0	20 0	17 8	...	...	...
33	Monghyr ...	20 0	20 0	18 6	30 8	29 7	31 8	13 15	13 14	13 2	10 13	17 13	17 13	...	...	31 0
34	Bhagulpore ...	18 15	15 2	17 10	29 0	30 6	37 14	16 8	16 6	18 15	18 15	20 3	21 7	...	...	...
35	Purneah ...	26 0	16 0	16 0	26 0	26 8	...	21 0	20 0	21 0	29 0	22 0	24 0	...	...	...
36	Maldah ...	20 ■	19 0	19 0	...	...	...	13 0	14 0	18 0	21 8	23 0	20 0	...	...	...
37	Sonthal Purgha.	14 0	11 ■	16 0	...	...	...	16 8	16 8	18 0	22 0	22 0	27 8	...	...	...
	ORISSA.															
38	Cuttack ...	17 1	15 12	14 7	...	...	...	13 2	10 8	13 2	21 0	21 0	18 8	...	...	...
39	Pooree ...	13 13	14 7	11 13	...	...	...	18 6	17 1	17 1	24 15	23 10	28 10	...	...	...
40	Balasore ...	15 0	15 0	18 0	13 0	13 0	13 0	14 0	14 0	14 0	22 0	27 0	25 0	...	...	...
	CHOTA NAGPORE. *South-West Frontier Agency.*															
41	Hazaribagh ...	15 0	15 0	20 0	22 ■	28 0	26 0	8 0	8 0	10 0	16 0	16 0	19 0	...	...	...
42	Lohardugga ...	16 ■	15 12	26 0	28 0	28 0	36 0	15 0	15 8	19 0	18 0	18 8	20 0	...	...	...
43	Singbhoom ...	15 0	13 0	24 0	20 0	20 0	22 0	18 0	18 0	20 0	24 0	22 0	22 0	...	...	...
44	Manbhoom ...	14 0	14 0	17 0	22 0	22 0	44 0	14 0	14 0	14 8	18 0	24 0	22 0	...	...	...

Q At Cox's Bazar retail price of salt 7 seers per rupee.
H At Panchgatchia retail price of salt 7 seers per rupee.
■ In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—[illegible]
T In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—Madhubani 10 seers and [illegible] 9 seers.
U In sub-divisions retail prices of salt per rupee were:—[illegible]

CALCUTTA,
The 24th April 1888.

EERS OF 80 TOLAHS.

[illegible]A OR CUMBU. (*Pen[illegible]ssetum typhoideum.*)				MARUA OR RAGI. (*Eleusine Coracana.*)					
Present return.		Next preceding return.		Corresponding return of last year.		Present return.		Next preceding return.		Corresponding return of last year.	
S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
..		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		26	0	..		...		26	0
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		33	0	31	0	33	0
...		..		...		30	0	30	0	...	
..		...		...		28	0	30	0	26	0
...		...		30	0	30	0	30	0	30	0
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		32	0	32	0	...	
...		..		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...				25	0	25	0	33	0
...		...		...		35	0	38	12	40	0
...		...		...		...		...		...	
...		...		...		...		...		...	

Rangel or Karun. Italian millet. (*Setaria italica.*)			Gram, Chana, Chola, Kadlay, or Sunaga. (*Cicer arietinum.*)		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
...	...	...	14 0	13 0	12 0
...	...	...	11 0	11 0	13 0
...	...	...	14 4	14 0	14 8
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0
20 0	25 0	20 0	29 0	30 0	30 0
19 0	19 0	17 0	24 0	24 0	25 5
...	...	...	25 12	28 8	29 0
...	18 0	...	24 0	22 0	27 8
...	...	...	25 0	24 0	26 0
16 8	17 0	14 0	22 8	22 8	27 0
...	...	...	20 0	17 0	38 0
21 0	16 12	21 0	31 8	31 8	27 12
...	...	...	27 12	30 8	25 4
16 0	16 0	...	28 0	26 0	20 0
...	...	...	28 0	20 0	27 0
...	...	...	22 0	22 0	21 0
...	...	...	21 0	(Kalai) 21 0	17 1
...	...	...	17 1	(Kalai.) 17 1	18 2
...	...	...	16 0	16 0	15 0
...	...	...	19 0	17 0	22 0
...	...	...	18 8	18 8	24 0
...	...	...	14 0	18 0	16 0
...	...	...	18 0	17 0	17 0

Station Bazars of the Districts of Bengal on the 15th April 1888—(concluded).

Indian-corn or Maize. (*Zea Mays.*)			Arhar or Tur. Cajan Pea. (*Cajanus indicus.*)			Firewood.			Salt.			Wholesale prices per maund of 40 seers. Salt.			
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Districts.
															Eastern Districts—concluded.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	
...	...	...	9 0	10 0	10 0	110 0	110 0	75 0	9 0 (U)	8 0	12 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	3 0 0	Chittagong.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	8 0 (21)	7 0	8 0	4 12 0	4 12 0	4 0 0	Noakholly.
...	...	...	10 0	10 0	10 2	...	...	...	8 0	8 0	11 8	4 10 0	4 8 0	3 5 0	Tipperah.
...	...	...	...	...	...	300 0	320 0	320 0	6 8	6 0	8 0	4 4 0	4 0 0	4 6 0	Chittagong Hill Tracts.
...	...	...	12 0	12 0	18 0	...	...	...	9 [illegible]	9 0	11 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 4 0	Hill Tipperah.
															BEHAR.
25 0	29 [illegible]	30 0	25 0	25 0	28 0	120 0	120 0	120 0	10 0	10 0	11 8	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 1 0	Patna.
...	...	...	20 4	20 4	23 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	9 8	9 8	11 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 6 0	Gya.
28 0	22 8	...	15 4	15 8	16 0	140 0	140 0	160 0	10 0 (S)	10 0	12 0	.....	.....	3 6 0	Shahabad.
25 8	27 0	35 0	20 4	17 0	14 8	176 0	160 0	176 0	11 0 (T)	10 0	13 0	3 8 0	3 10 8	3 0 0	Durbhunga.
24 8	27 8	30 0	30 0	20 0	18 0	160 0	160 0	140 0	10 0 (U)	10 0	12 0	3 13 0	3 13 0	3 4 0	Mozufferpore.
26 8	26 8	28 0	20 8	23 0	24 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	10 0	10 0	12 0	3 14 0	3 14 0	3 4 0	Sarun.
28 0	28 0	30 0	16 0	16 0	22 0	160 0	160 0	160 0	8 0 (V)	8 0	11 8	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 7 0	Chumparun.
33 0	31 8	37 12	21 0	21 0	18 14	120 0	120 0	120 0	10 0 (W)	10 8	12 0	3 13 0	3 6 0	3 0 0	Monghyr.
26 8	26 8	37 5	24 0	17 10	22 3	151 6	161 0	177 4	10 1	10 1	12 10	.....	3 12 0	3 3 0	Bhagulpore.
...	...	...	20 0	16 0	16 0	120 0	120 0	128 0	8 0 (X)	8 8	10 8	4 8 0	4 11 3	3 10 0	Purneah.
...	...	...	...	...	...	120	120	160 0	9 8	9 0	12 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 4 0	Maldah.
32 0	24 6	37 8	21 0	24 0	26 0	200 0	200 0	200 0	10 0	9 8	11 8	3 14 0	3 15 0	3 4 0	Sonthal Pergs.
															ORISSA.
...	...	...	[illegible] 6	19 11	...	80 0	80 0	80 0	10 0	10 8	14 0	3 14 0	3 13 0	2 12 0	Cuttack.
...	...	...	15 12	17 1	15 12	80 0	80 0	70 0	10 8 (Y)	10 8	14 7	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 10 0	Pooree.
...	...	...	[illegible] 0	13 0	12 0	200 0	200 0	160 0	9 8 (Z)	9 4	10 8	4 2	4 4 0	3 0 0	Balasore.
															CHOTA NAGPORE. *South-West Frontier Agency.*
30 [illegible]	30 0	27 0	20 0	21 0	20 0	320 0	320 0	320 0	8 0	[illegible] 0	10 0	4 8 0	4 6 0	3 12 0	Hazaribagh.
18 8	...	24 0	22 0	23 0	22 0	140 0	140 0	120 0	8 10	8 10	10 0	4 10 0	4 10 0	3 12 0	Lohardugga.
...	...	...	20 0	20 0	24 0	240 0	320 0	320 0	8 0	8 0	9 0	.....	4 13 0	4 [illegible] 0	Singhbhum.
24 0	30 0	40 0	[illegible] 8	21 0	22 0	240 0	240 0	240 0	8 0	8 0	10 10	4 8 0	4 8 0	3 8 0	Manbhoom.

Y. At Bettiah retail price of salt 9 seers per rupee.
W. At Sagdighi and Jaitaul retail price of salt 9 seers per rupee.
X. At Kishenganj retail price of salt 9 seers per rupee.
Y. At Khurda retail price of salt 12 seers per rupee.
Z. At Bundwan retail price of salt 9 seers per rupee.

Published for general information.

P. NOLAN,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

PRICES-CURRENT (wholesale) of Food-grains, Firewood, and Salt in the

Number.	MARTS.	Wheat.			Barley.			Rice, best sort.			Rice, common.		
		Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
		R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
1	Calcutta ...	2 9 5	2 11 0	2 9 2	1 6 5	1 13 5	1 4 0	3 1 0	3 2 9	3 6 0	1 13 2	1 15 0	1 12 6
2	Serajgunge ...	1 15 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	...	...	...	3 8 0	3 6 0	3 15 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	1 12 0
3	Dacca ...	2 11 0	2 11 0	2 12 0	0 15 6	0 15 6	1 8 0	1 14 6	1 14 0	2 6 0	1 12 0	1 8 0	2 1 0
4	Noraingunge	...	...	...	...	...	...	2 0 0	2 0 0	2 4 0	1 12 0	1 12 0	2 0 0
5	Chittagong ...	3 6 0	3 8 0	2 6 0	...	...	...	2 12 0	2 12 0	3 0 0	1 14 0	1 14 0	3 3 0
6	Patna ...	1 14 0	1 16 0	2 2 0	1 5 6	1 4 6	1 3 6	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	1 13 6	1 14 6	1 9 0
7	Balasore ...	2 8 0	2 8 0	2 4 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 0 0	2 12 6	2 12 0	2 12 0	1 6 6	1 6 0	1 7 0
8	Pooree ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1 7 0	1 8 0	1 8 0
9	Cuttack ...	2 0 0	2 5 0	2 10 0	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 10 0	3 0 0	1 11 0	1 11 0	2 1 0

CALCUTTA
The 24th April 1888.

PRICES PER MAUND

WAR OR CHOLUM. (orghum Vulgare.)			BAJRA OR CUMBU. (Pennisetum typhoideum.)		
Present return	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.
2 6	2 4 1	1 10 0	2 8 0	2 8 6	2 4 0
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
6 0	1 3 0	1 6 0	...	...	1 6 0
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...

OF 40 SEERS.

MARUA OR RAGI. (*Eleusine Coracana.*)			KANGNI OR KAN[illegible] ITALIAN MILLET (*Setaria italica*)		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return
R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R. A. P.	R.
...	...	...	2 13 8	3 0 0	2
...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	1 6 0	1 14 0	1 8 0	1
	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	
...	...	...	...	...	

undermentioned Marts of Bengal on the 15th April 1888.

Gram, Chana, Cheola, Cabalay or Sehada. (*Cicer arietinum.*)			Indian-corn or Maize. (*Zea Mays.*)			Arhar or Thur Cadjan Pea. (*Cajanus indicus.*)			Firewood.			Salt.			MARTS.
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	
R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	R. a. p.	
1 9 2	1 11 10	1 10 0	2 3 8	2 0 2	1 6 0	1 18 3	1 14 5	2 3 0	0 5 3	0 6 6	0 6 9	3 9 0	3 9 5	3 0 0	Calcutta.
2 10 0	2 0 0	2 0 0	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 12 0	3 14 0	3 0 0	Serajgunge.
2 7 0	2 7 0	2 10 0	...	...	...	2 4 0	2 15 0	...	0 5 0	0 5 0	0 5 0	4 4 0	4 4 0	3 3 0	Dacca.
2 4 0	2 4 0	2 8 0	...	...	...	2 8 0	2 3 0	...	0 8 0	0 10 0	0 8 0	4 0 0	4 0 0	3 2 0	Narainganj
2 12 0	2 14 0	3 2 0	...	...	...	4 0 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	0 5 0	0 6 0	0 8 0	4 2 0	4 4 0	3 0 0	Chittagong.
1 5 6	1 4 8	1 4 8	1 5 6	1 5 0	1 4 9	1 8 0	1 8 0	1 5 5	0 5 6	0 5 0	0 5 0	3 12 0	3 12 0	3 1 6	Patna.
2 6 0	2 6 0	2 8 0	...	...	...	3 0 0	3 0 0	3 2 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	0 4 0	4 8 0	4 4 0	3 6 0	Bahraich.
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3 8 0	3 8 0	2 10 0	Poorie
1 11 0	1 11 0	2 0 0	...	...	...	2 2 0	2 0 0	...	0 6 0	0 6 0	0 8 0	3 14 0	3 13 0	2 12 0	Cuttack.

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P. NOLAN,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Meteorological Report of the Province of Bengal

STATION OBSERVATIONS.

Meteorological Division	District	Representative station	Air pressure: Mean barometric height, 10 A.M.	Air pressure: Mean reduced to sea-level	Air pressure: Variation from normal	Wind: Prevailing direction	Wind: Mean wind velocity	Temperature: Highest during week	Date	Temperature: Lowest during week	Date	Mean maximum temperature	Mean minimum temperature of week	Mean daily temperature of week	Variation from normal mean of week	Mean 10 A.M. temperature
Orissa	Pooree	Pooree														
		Gopalpore	29·788	29·814	−·011	SSW	555	85·7	14th Apl.	70·8	18th Apl.	84·5	78·5	81·7	1·8	83·9
		False Point	29·809	29·836	−·006	SSW	423	87·0	17th, 18th, & 20th Apl.	72·0	14th to 17th Apl.	87·1	79·1	83·2	−1·0	83·6
	Cuttack	Cuttack	29·717	29·796	−·018	SSW	145	110·4	16th "	76·9	13th "	106·5	80·8	93·8	+3·1	84·7
	Balasore	Balasore	29·728	29·810	−·056	SSW	120·5	105·5	18th "	77·7	12th "	101·5	79·4	90·0	+4·3	83·4
South-West Bengal	South-West Midnapore	Saugor Island	29·782	29·811	−·034	SSSW	027	95·7	19th "	81·0	14th, 16th Apl.	91·2	82·0	86·6	+1·6	88·3
	South 24-Parganas															
	Midnapore	Midnapore	29·643	29·731	−·040	S	159·0	112·4	18th "	77·6	14th, 16th Apl.	100·0	78·5	92·3	+4·4	90·2
	24-Parganas	Calcutta	29·750	29·780	−·075	SSW	210	101·9	14th "	76·2	20th Apl.	98·5	78·0	88·6	+3·8	89·4
	Howrah															
	Hooghly															
	Burdwan	Burdwan	29·666	29·761	−·068	S	127·0	105·8	18th "	70·0	15th "	106·4	78·0	92·2	+1·8	91·4
	Bankoora	Bankoora	29·646	—	—	NW	137	110·5	15th "	78·0	14th, 16th Apl.	108·8	79·5	94·1	—	97·4
	Beerbhoom	Ranneegunge	29·639	29·734	−·060	Variable	121·7	110·0	18th "	76·0	19th Apl.	108·1	76·4	93·3	+4·3	92·1
	West Burdwan															
	Moorshedabad	Berhampore	29·782	29·749	−·058	South-Westerly	149·2	108·2	18th "	74·5	20th "	101·8	75·1	91·6	+2·6	90·8
	Nuddea	Krishnaghur	29·689	29·751	—	WSW	171·1	107·7	18th "	71·7	20th "	104·8	77·4	91·1	—	89·4
	Jessore	Jessore	29·701	29·787	−·060	South-Westerly	113·0	108·1	16th "	71·2	23rd "	102·6	77·0	90·1	+3·5	90
	Khoolna															
East Bengal	Chittagong	Chittagong	29·792	29·851	−·061	S	233·0	93·9	17th "	69·2	18th "	88·8	74·7	81·5	−0·6	83·6
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Demagiri						Observations not received.								
	Backergunge	Barisal	29·811	29·825	−·025	S	234·7	91·5	15th Apl.	70·9	18th "	82·0	77·5	84·8	+1·0	82·6
	Noakholly	Noakholly	29·802	29·845	+·007	SSW	273·3	90·0	17th & 20th Apl.	64·7	18th "	82·0	76·0	79·1	+0·7	80·3
	Furreedpore	Furreedpore	29·784	29·845	−·025	S	221	100·5	15th "	65·0	13th "	95·1	75·1	85·0	+3·5	87·2
	Dacca	Dacca	29·774	29·786	−·051	S	237·7	95·0	16th "	71·1	19th "	95·5	77·5	86·5	+1·6	87·1
	Comillah	Comillah	29·792	29·827	−·041	S	148·5	97·8	14th to 19th Apl.	67·8	18th "	92·0	75·5	83·8	+1·4	85·6
	Mymensingh	Mymensingh	29·747	29·805	−·025	SE	3·83	92·0	16th "	66·5	18th "	90·6	74·1	82·3	−0·4	85·0
North Bengal	Bogra	Bogra	29·692	29·764	—	SW	147·4	105·5	19th "	72·1	20th "	102·0	75·5	88·1	—	86·0
	Pubna	Serajgunge	29·727	29·773	−·050	S	173·4	100·7	16th "	69·8	20th "	101·0	74·6	88·1	+2·6	87·8
	Rajshahye	Rampore Boalia	29·738	29·769	−·050	Variable	114·5	102·4	18th "	68·7	20th "	102·0	72·5	86·8	+0·8	88·0
	Maldah	Maldah	29·675	—	—	Variable	131·5	105·3	18th "	63·3	19th "	103·4	71·5	87·5	—	92·0
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	29·651	29·779	−·055	North-Easterly	192	103·0	16th, 17th Apl.	71·6	19th "	98·5	72·7	85·6	+2·5	88·3
	Rungpore	Rungpore	29·701	29·759	+·025	E	165	103·4	16th "	69·1	20th "	95·4	70·7	83·1	+1·2	84·7
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	29·611	29·682	−·034	E	182·0	95·5	16th "	60·5	14th "	90·9	70·4	80·7	+0·5	84·5
	Cooch Behar															
	Darjeeling Hill Tracts	Darjeeling	23·057	−·017	−·017	Calm	175	68·1	16th "	60·0	20th "	66·1	60·7	67·7	+1·9	64·9
North Behar	Purneah	Purneah	29·659	29·765	−·055	NE	93·6	104·5	15th, 17th Apl.	68·7	18th "	100·0	74·5	89·0	+1·8	88·8
	North Bhagulpore															
	Monghyr	Monghyr					Observations not received.									
	Durbhunga	Durbhunga	29·560	29·755	−·051	ESE	161	100·0	15th Apl.	70·5	18th "	99·1	77·2	88·2	+3·0	89·0
	Chumparun	Motihari	29·467	29·721	−·075	Variable	160·1	106·5	19th "	67·0	14th, 15th Apl.	101·1	80·0	88·9	+3·0	89·9
	Sarun	Chupra	29·544	29·728	−·064	W	241·4	104·1	14th, 17th Apl.	73·5	20th "	94·5	75·5	84·0	−4·0	89·8
South-West Bengal	Shahabad	Dehree	29·456	29·756	−·060	W	202·1	110·0	18th "	73·8	19th "	107·5	79·0	93·4	+4·0	95·1
		Buxar	29·568	29·764	−·060	North-Westerly	182·7	108·0	18th "	75·8	14th "	103·1	78·0	90·0	+3·5	91·5
		Arrah	29·645	29·762	−·054	W	144·8	107·9	18th "	74·1	16th, 18th Apl.	101·4	76·5	89·1	+3·4	92·2
	Gya	Gya	29·529	29·729	−·064	Westerly	227·7	109·2	19th "	69·0	20th "	105·5	72·5	89·0	+0·7	90·0
	Patna	Bankipore	29·572	29·732	−·050	ESE	151·0	107·6	18th "	72·9	16th "	101·5	74·5	90·4	+3·8	91·7
	South Bhagulpore	Bhagulpore	29·586	29·748	−·044	Variable	118	109·4	16th "	72·0	14th "	99·0	76·5	89·4	+2·5	94·3
	Monghyr															
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Deoghur	29·554	—	−·039	Variable	140·0	109·7	18th "	74·0	16th "	104·5	77·5	90·1	+2·0	94·5
Nagpore	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	29·708	29·740	−·040	W	315·5	104·0	20th "	73·0	18th "	101·0	76·5	89·3	+4·0	90·0
	Lohardugga	Lohardugga	29·681	29·739	−·041	SW	176·0	105·0	20th "	74·7	16th "	102·0	79·0	90·5	+4·7	92·0
	Manbhoom															
	Singhbhoom	Chyebassa	29·655	—	−·045	SSW	87·0	114·0	[illegible] "	69·4	20th "	100·1	81·0	90·5	+4·1	[illegible]

Explanation.—Summary.—The actual means of air pressure and temperature are the arithmetical averages of [illegible] The humidity of the atmosphere is expressed as percentage, saturation air being represented by 100. A [illegible] the numerical means or averages of the rainfall in that district described from the reports sent in by the [illegible] in the district tending to enhance [illegible] by the number of stations. A rainy day [illegible]

for the week ending Friday, the 20th of April 1888.

Average humidity at 10 A.M.	Average cloud amount at 10 A.M. for week.	Rainfall of week at observing station.	Of week. Mean for district.	Of week. Normal mean.	District observations. Rainfall. Since 1st of month. Mean for district.	Since 1st of month. Normal mean.	Since 1st of month. Variation.	Since 15th May 1887. Mean for district.	Since 15th May 1887. Normal mean.	Since 15th May 1887. Variation.	Average number of rainy days.	Total number of rainy days.	Representative station.	District.	Meteorological Division.
			Nil	0·15	Nil	0·05	−0·05	46·52	55·85	−12·33	0·0	0·0	Pooree		
88	0·6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Khordahpore	Pooree	Orissa.
79	0·5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Pipli-Ganjam		
66	0·7	—	Nil	0·49	0·07	0·71	−0·64	48·56	55·70	−7·21	0·0	0·8	Cuttack	Cuttack	
55	0·9	—	0·01	0·43	0·20	0·06	−0·73	46·31	57·40	−11·01	0·2	0·2	Balasore	Balasore	
81	7·3	—	0·01	0·46	0·01	0·72	−0·71	62·89	68·12	−5·20	0·3	0·9	Saugor Island	South-West Midnapore	
45	1·8	—	0·01	0·47	0·04	0·44	−0·40	53·72	55·95	−1·24	0·7	0·7	Midnapore	South 24-Parganas	
61	3·0	—	0·05	0·46	0·05	0·93	−0·88	44·53	56·19	−11·59	0·4	0·9	Calcutta	Midnapore	
														24-Parganas	
														Howrah	
														Hooghly	
40	1·6	—	0·05	0·40	0·12	1·06	−0·94	48·33	50·28	−2·15	0·5	1·0	Burdwan	Burdwan	SOUTH-WEST BENGAL.
39	1·3	—	0·06	0·32	0·12	0·56	−0·44	51·70	54·74	−3·04	0·3	0·5	Bankoora	Bankoora	
51	1·1	—	0·05	0·13	0·05	0·58	−0·53	49·14	56·68	−7·54	0·5	0·4	Burdwan	Burdwan	
													Ranigunge	West Burdwan	
55	2·4	—	0·00	0·16	0·10	0·75	+0·15	53·[illegible]	52·30	+0·28	1·0	0·6	Berhampore	Murshidabad	
52	2·7	0·80	0·03	0·07	0·03	1·22	−0·19	47·48	53·72	−6·41	1·0	0·8	Krishnagar	Nadia	
66	4·4	0·42	0·04	0·18	0·16	1·02	−0·86	46·15	56·24	−10·09	1·4	1·2	Jessore	Jessore	
														Khoolna	
73	6·3	0·93	0·02	0·46	0·10	1·11	−0·41	10·[illegible]	110·56	−15·22	2·0	0·1	Chittagong	Chittagong	
				0·15		2·04			88·09			1·0			
74	6·4	Nil	0·02	0·27	0·21	1·54	−1·33	61·29	83·11	−18·88	0·5	1·3	Demooch	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
[illegible]	8·0	0·06	1·25	0·32	1·25	2·31	−1·06	79·75	116·96	−37·20	2·5	1·0	Barisal	Backergunge	EAST BENGAL.
72	5·0	1·42	0·43	0·65	0·68	1·80	−1·12	42·41	52·64	−10·23	1·0	1·0	Noakholly	Noakholly	
72	5·0	1·25	1·04	0·71	1·30	2·28	−0·98	14·[illegible]	67·51	−18·[illegible]	1·5	1·4	Furreedpore	Furreedpore	
72	3·4	1·27	1·01	1·00	2·84	2·75	+0·09	53·02	79·21	−26·19	2·0	1·0	Dacca	Dacca	
69	6·1	0·10	1·02	0·71	1·35	1·68	−0·33	65·14	72·48	−7·34	0·6	1·5	Comillah	Comillah	
													Mymensingh	Mymensingh	
60	3·0	—	Nil	0·21	Nil	0·62	−0·62	61·35	60·65	+0·70	0·8	0·5	Rajshahye	Rajshahye	
66	4·0	1·10	0·37	0·4[illegible]	0·77	1·49	−0·72	48·57	57·87	−9·30	1·6	1·2	Serajgunge	Pubna	NORTH BENGAL.
65	0·0	—	Nil	0·25	Nil	0·65	0·53	51·10	56·89	−4·79	0·0	0·6	Bogoorah	Bogoorah	
65	1·5	—	Nil	0·16	Nil	0·54	−0·54	47·02	56·98	−9·96	0·0	0·4	Malda	Malda	
57	1·7	—	Nil	0·35	Nil	0·36	−0·35	70·08	57·66	+12·42	0·0	0·3	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	
65	1·3	0·01	0·45	0·62	0·42	1·29	−0·83	85·01	76·68	+7·36	1·0	0·9	Rungpore	Rungpore	
65	1·3	—	0·10	0·63	0·10	1·09	−1·09	120·82	114·48	+6·34	0·6	1·2	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	
														Cooch Behar	
61	6·0	0·08	0·73	0·80	0·73	2·26	−1·52	123·49	126·16	−8·71	1·3	1·7	Darjeeling	Darjeeling Hill Tracts	
59	1·1	—	Nil	0·15	Nil	0·52	−0·52	46·31	39·33	+6·78	0·0	0·4	Purneah	Purneah	NORTH BIHAR.
			Nil	0·10	Nil	0·36	−0·36	47·57	44·60	+2·97	0·0	0·3		North Bhagulpore	
48	0	—	Nil	0·15	Nil	0·31	−0·31	50·46	48·29	+0·17	0·0	0·2	Mozufferpore	Mozufferpore	
44	0·0	—	Nil	0·07	Nil	0·44	−0·44	49·97	47·73	+2·24	0·0	0·4	Durbhunga	Durbhunga	
41	0·1	—	Nil	0·05	Nil	0·12	−0·12	40·37	45·94	−5·57	0·0	0·2	Motihari	Champaran	
11	0·5	—											Chupra	Sarun	
													Dehree		
41	0·7	—	Nil	0·02	Nil	0·14	−0·14	38·57	41·21	−2·64	0·0	0·2	Buxar	Shahabad	
	0	—											Arrah		
46	1·3	—	Nil	0·05	Nil	0·15	−0·15	39·34	42·72	−3·38	0·0	0·2	Gya	Gya	SOUTH BEHAR.
41	1·3	—	Nil	0·08	Nil	0·14	−0·16	36·81	42·50	−5·69	0·0	0·2	Bankipore	Patna	
56	0·4		0·08	0·11	0·09	0·31	−0·29	43·02	44·13	−0·31	0·2	0·3	Bhagulpore	South Bhagulpore	
														Monghyr	
46	0	0·26	0·09	0·19	0·07	0·44	−0·37	53·49	52·07	+1·42	0·3	0·4	Dumka	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
46	1·2	—	Nil	0·04	Nil	0·12	−0·12	43·07	52·23	−9·16	0·0	0·2	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	CHOTA NAGPORE.
46	0·2	—	Nil	0·03	Nil	0·09	−0·09	46·35	46·93	−3·58	0·0	0·1	Ranchi	Lohardugga	
														Manbhoom	
49	0·2	—	Nil	0·02	0·04	0·08	−0·08	45·71	54·93	−0·22	0·0	0·3	Chyebassa	Singbhoom	

[illegible] are marked [illegible] for the week is less than the corresponding normal mean, and positive when greater.

[illegible] sky being denoted by 10. Under the head District observations of rainfall the normal mean [illegible] the rainfall values received in this district, i.e., from total rainfall of [illegible]

Statement of Rainfall in Bengal for the week ending Friday (6 p.m.), the 20th of April 1868.

Meteorological division.	District.	Station.	Rainfall. Saturday, 14th April.	Sunday, 15th April.	Monday, 16th April.	Tuesday, 17th April.	Wednesday, 18th April.	Thursday, 19th April.	Friday, 20th April.	Total. Number of rainy days.	Rainfall of week.	Total rainfall since 1st of month.	Average total rainfall from 1st of month.	Total rainfall since 15th May 1867.	Average rainfall from 15th May to date.
ORISSA	Pooree	Pooree								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·29	38·53	55·74
		Khurdah								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·27	39·65	60·37
		Banpur								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·37	38·04	54·12
		Pubo Pooree								Nil	Nil	Nil	1·20	72·09	67·18
		Gop								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	30·32	?
		Pipli								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	?	?
	Cuttack	Jajpore								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·41	33·64	49·77
		Benki								Nil	Nil	0·37	0·21	48·05	60·27
		Cuttack								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·30	42·45	53·33
		Kendrapara								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·19	54·71	59·33
		Jajpore								Nil	Nil	Nil	1·35	51·00	56·93
		Dharmsalla								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	44·10	?
		Salipore								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	51·91	?
	Balasore	Chandbali								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·77	41·10	47·13
		Bhuddruck								Nil	Nil	0·49	1·10	48·98	56·17
		Sorah								Nil	Nil	0·48	1·04	42·56	50·11
		Balasore								Nil	Nil	0·44	1·46	56·18	63·46
		Jellasore						0·04		1	0·04	0·08	0·63	42·73	55·64
		Baripadah								Nil	Nil	0·00	0·52	46·43	62·77
SOUTH-WEST BENGAL	Midnapore	Contai								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·00	52·06	69·94
		Saugor Island								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·80	78·18	69·57
		Tumlook								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·98	5·[illegible]	54·26
		Midnapore						0·03		1	0·03	0·16	1·47	46·15	53·48
		Chetul						0·60		1	0·60	0·10	1·06	56·85	58·[illegible]
		Kukrahaty								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	28·22	?
		Hijeli								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	48·41	?
		Bhuseanpore								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	45·08	?
		Garbeta								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	61·02	?
	24-Pergunnahs	Diamond Harbour							0·02		0·02	0·02	0·85	61·62	72·71
		Canning Town								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	61·[illegible]	?
		Alipore Jail								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·03	57·20	59·73
		Barrackpore								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·03	43·01	53·51
		Dum-Dum								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·02	45·02	55·57
		Barasat								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·07	45·[illegible]	56·13
		Busserhat								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·13	5·20	56·61
	Howrah	Howrah							0·01	1	0·01	0·01	1·26	40·03	55·32
		Mohesreka (Goberdanah)								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·71	43·[illegible]	60·43
	Hooghly	Serampore							0·03	1	0·03	0·04	0·72	[illegible]	54·05
		Hooghly							0·11	1	0·11	0·16	1·10	[illegible]	52·51
		Johanabad							0·30	1	0·30	0·95	0·95	58·05	56·53
	Burdwan	Culna							0·21	1	0·21	0·27	1·13	40·[illegible]	46·23
		Burdwan								Nil	Nil	0·05	1·05	[illegible]	61·67
		Cutwa								Nil	Nil	Nil	1·[illegible]	50·47	60·91
		Raneegunge							0·07	1	0·07	0·07	0·56	47·20	51·61
		Bankar							0·41	1	0·41	0·41	?	43·10	?
	Bankoora	Bankoora							0·20	1	0·24	0·31	0·77	45·72	54·37
		Bishenpore								Nil	Nil	0·15	0·56	37·62	53·51
		Maliara								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·21	50·97	51·34
		Khatra								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·24	41·71	48·06
		Indas							1·21	1	1·21	1·21	?	43·55	?
		Sonapore							0·19	1	0·19	0·19	?	48·29	?
		Antla							0·34	1	0·34	0·34	?	50·70	?
		Gunnapachari								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	50·46	?
		Sonamoki							0·25	1	0·25	0·25	?	43·69	?
		Sonamukhi							1·43	1	1·43	1·43	?	50·38	?
	Beerbhoom	Bh. Sooty							0·12	1	0·12	0·12	0·81	51·95	56·21
		Hetampore								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·35	51·67	58·37
		Rampore Haut								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·70	45·40	53·19
		Bolpore							0·91	1	0·91	0·91	?	46·38	
	Nuddea	Kishnaghur							1·04	1	1·04	1·32	1·72	43·46	51·[illegible]
		Kishnaghur							0·86	1	0·86	0·86	1·30	43·39	45·[illegible]
		Chooadanga							1·35	1	1·35	1·35	1·49	46·63	55·[illegible]
		Meherpore								Nil	Nil	Nil	1·01	51·73	55·[illegible]
		Kooshtea					0·60	0·31		2	0·91	0·21	1·41	49·76	56·[illegible]
	Khoolna	Sulkhira							0·25	1	0·25	0·25	1·38	47·15	51·13
		Jessorehat							1·34	1	1·34	1·34	2·90	44·26	47·31
		Khoolna							0·75	1	0·75	0·75	1·18	45·90	50·03
	Jessore	Narail						0·31	0·27	2	0·32	0·53	1·43	27·30	37·[illegible]
		Jessore						0·66	0·30	2	0·45	0·42	1·78	44·51	50·23
		Jhenidah						1·03		1	1·03	1·05	1·81	43·06	51·41
		Magoorah						1·11	0·40	2	2·51	1·51	1·81	37·19	51·[illegible]
		Bongong							0·66	1	0·83	0·83	1·30	37·[illegible]	50·11
	Moorshedabad	Kandi							1·76	1	1·76	1·76	0·68	49·63	55·[illegible]
		Berhampore							1·28	1	1·28	1·28	0·81	49·09	55·[illegible]
		Lalbagh							0·[illegible]	2	0·82	0·52	0·64	71·09	57·[illegible]
		Aurungunge							0·63	1	0·63	0·93	0·90	61·35	57·[illegible]
		Jungipore							0·65	1	0·65	0·95	0·75	46·18	54·[illegible]
		Lalgola							0·43	1	0·43	0·43	0·60	65·44	[illegible]
		Akhrigunj							0·10	1	0·10	0·14	?	54·11	?
		Patkabari							1·00	1	1·00	1·00	?	?	?
EAST PENGAL	Chittagong	Cox's Bazar				0·35				1	0·35	0·35	0·69	126·47	[illegible]
		Chittagong			0·08	0·18		0·16		3	0·41	1·05	1·38	81·18	?
		Kutubdia								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	70·43	?
		Satkania								Nil	Nil	Nil	?	66·41	?
	Chittagong Hill Tracts.	Rangamati			0·09	0·41	0·02	0·14		4	0·41	0·90	1·11	70·01	[illegible]
		Ruma								Nil	Nil	Nil	0·67	56·71	[illegible]
	Backergunge	Patuakhally								Nil	Nil	Nil	1·00	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Perozepore						0·94	0·60	2	0·84	0·00	1·00	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Burrisal								Nil	Nil	Nil	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Bhola								Nil	Nil	Nil	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Statement of Rainfall in Bengal for the week ending Friday (6 p.m.), the 20th of April 1888—contd.

Meteorological Division.	District.	Station.	Rainfall. Saturday, 14th April.	Sunday, 15th April.	Monday, 16th April.	Tuesday, 17th April.	Wednesday, 18th April.	Thursday, 19th April.	Friday, 20th April.	Totals. Number of rainy days.	Rainfall of week.	Total rainfall since 1st of month.	Average total rainfall from 1st of month.	Total rainfall since 16th May 1887.	Average rainfall from 16th May to date.
EAST BENGAL—concld.		*Gournadi*	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·51	.....	.....	1	0·51	0·51	?	41·96	?
		Bauphal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	66·07	?
	Noakholly	Noakholly	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·58	0·08	.....	2	0·66	0·66	2·09	73·29	216·19
		Fenny	.....	.....	.....	0·47	0·25	1·12	.....	3	1·84	1·84	2·50	81·23	217·48
		Harishpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	77·07	?
		Ramganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·62	.....	.....	1	0·62	0·62	?	40·76	?
	Faridpore	Madaripore	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·46	.....	.....	1	0·46	0·46	1·03	38·03	43·03
		Faridpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·33	.....	1	1·33	1·33	1·70	41·03	53·03
		Goalundo	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·26	1	0·26	0·26	1·70	41·50	62·82
	Dacca	Munshiganj	.....	.....	.....	0·30	0·52	.....	.....	2	0·82	0·82	2·70	47·79	80·04
		Dacca	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·47	.....	1·17	2	2·64	2·64	3·61	58·16	82·83
		Narayanganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·00	.....	.....	1	1·00	1·00	3·01	51·84	65·76
		Manickgunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·03	.....	1	0·03	0·12	1·61	39·35	50·30
		Joydebpore	.....	.....	.....	0·70	.....	.....	.....	1	0·70	1·00	?	56·04	?
	Hill Tipperah	Agartola	.....	.....	.....	0·42	.....	2·50	2·51	3	5·43	5·43	2·57	57·06	70·57
	Tipperah	Comilla	.....	.....	.....	0·30	0·41	0·65	.....	3	1·36	1·36	2·07	54·68	45·37
		Chandpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	2·03	47·17	68·95
		Brahmanbaria	.....	.....	.....	1·05	.....	0·71	.....	2	1·76	2·88	2·71	51·35	72·90
		Ramchandrapore.	.....	.....	.....	0·90	0·45	0·30	0·20	4	1·85	1·85	?	46·07	?
		Nasirnagar	.....	.....	.....	0·25	.....	0·20	0·20	3	0·65	3·05	?	56·60	?
		Bandhanti	.....	.....	.....	1·72	0·39	.....	.....	2	2·11	2·11	?	51·41	?
		Kasba	0·15	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·50	.....	2	0·65	8·05	?	57·41	?
		Laksham	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·70	0·45	.....	2	1·15	1·15	?	50·51	?
	Mymensingh	Kishoreganj	.....	.....	.....	0·45	.....	0·33	1·15	3	1·93	3·05	2·62	76·53	76·74
		Atia (*Tangail*)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·09	1	1·09	1·09	1·21	46·51	60·16
		Mymensingh	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·25	1	0·25	0·25	1·19	72·45	79·46
		Jamalpore	.....	.....	.....	0·95	.....	.....	1·15	2	2·10	2·10	1·50	61·66	69·64
		Netrokona	.....	.....	.....	0·17	.....	0·47	0·84	3	1·48	1·58	1·28	79·01	75·86
		Subornakhally	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·20	.....	1	1·20	1·20	?	64·45	?
		Durgapore	.....	.....	.....	0·40	.....	1·20	.....	2	1·60	1·60	?	42·61	?
		Dewanganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	31·05	?
NORTH BENGAL.	Pubna	Pubna	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·64	0·29	2	0·93	0·93	1·64	41·69	50·93
		Serajganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·20	.....	1	1·20	1·20	1·43	46·20	66·54
	Bogra	Sherpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·50	44·26	62·14
		Bonkolba	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·57	40·35	57·03
		Bogra	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	1·10	67·31	65·31
		Panchbibi	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·36	59·00	54·56
	Rajshahye	Beauleah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·67	.....	60·18
		Nattore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·94	50·38	56·18
		Naogaon	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	43·50	?
		Lalpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·70	0·71	2	1·70	1·70	?	39·02	?
		Manda	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	64·18	?
	Maldah	Maldah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·51	45·84	55·37
		Chanchal	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·45	41·16	60·67
		Gajol	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	61·03	?
		Sibganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·01	1	0·01	0·01	?	53·03	?
	Dinagepore	Mohadebpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·62	63·01	59·57
		Churaman	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·29	61·51	55·63
		Raigunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·45	74·51	58·11
		Dinagepore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·07	59·00	64·65
		Balurghat	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·10	62·61	63·17
	Rungpore	Bhowaniganj (*Gaibandha*)	.....	.....	.....	0·30	.....	.....	.....	1	0·30	0·30	1·31	49·21	56·51
		Rungpore	.....	.....	.....	0·01	.....	0·03	.....	2	0·04	0·04	1·05	35·70	76·00
		Kurigram	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	1·05	37·05	76·98
		Bagdogra (*Nilphamari*)	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·40	.....	1	1·40	1·40	0·31	36·35	85·98
		Gaibandha	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	61·01	?
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	1·06	132·17	120·26
		Alipore Duar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·57	1	0·57	0·57	2	102·41	?
		Baliacolla	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·24	1	0·24	0·24	2	146·92	?
		Debiganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·70	1	0·70	0·70	?	107·[illegible]	?
	Cooch Behar	Dinhatta	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·15	.....	1	0·15	0·15	1·01	14·[illegible]	98·81
		Cooch Behar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·10	1	0·10	0·10	2·17	1·653	133·10
		Mekligunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·87	125·96	109·37
		Mathabhanga	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·25	.....	1	0·25	0·25	1·14	119·43	124·54
	Darjeeling Hill.	Buxa	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·57	1	1·57	1·57	4·31	117·65	200·07
		Siliguri	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·30	1	0·30	0·30	1·01	111·27	106·93
		Darjeeling	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·03	1	0·03	0·03	2·42	117·48	111·98
		Kalimpong	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·10	0·14	2	0·24	0·24	1·45	83·97	65·86
WEST BENGAL	Purneah	Kissengunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·02	83·30	71·01
		Arrareah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·13	0·75	65·90
		Purneah	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·66	67·27	63·42
		Gondwara	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	?	?
		Balarampore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	0·[illegible]	?
		Manihari	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	0·[illegible]	?
		Kaliaganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·21	1	0·21	0·21	?	80·11	?
	North Bhagulpore.	Madhipura	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·35	50·08	50·32
		Soopool	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·42	55·22	56·61
		Protabganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·38	1	0·38	0·38	?	67·51	?
	Dinajpore	Tajpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·17	44·37	44·14
		Dinajpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·30	63·12	61·45
		Mathoorapore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·12	66·23	60·58
		Bahera	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	35·79	?
		Bothera	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	40·05	?
	Monghyr	Sheikpura	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·75	10·74	40·80
		Monghyr	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·31	41·31	41·84
		Jamalpore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·11	37·[illegible]	43·29
		Fort	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	41·04	?
		Kiulna	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?
		Sikkar	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?
		Pupri	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?
	Shahabad	Mohania	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·05	50·90	44·46
		Bhabua	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·[illegible]	40·12	50·48
		Sasaram	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	0·[illegible]	?
		Dehri	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	39·73	?

Statement of Rainfall in Bengal for the week ending Friday (6 p.m.), the 20th of April 1888—*concld.*

Meteorological Division.	District.	Station.	Rainfall. Saturday, 14th April.	Sunday, 15th April.	Monday, 16th April.	Tuesday, 17th April.	Wednesday, 18th April.	Thursday, 19th April.	Friday, 20th April.	Total. Number of rainy days.	Rainfall of week.	Total rainfall since 1st of month.	Average total rainfall from 1st of month.	Total rainfall since 15th May 1887.	Average rainfall from 15th May to date.
NORTH BEHAR—*concluded.*	Saran	Gopalganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·07	42·06	44·[illegible]
		Siwan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·10	38·74	40·[illegible]
		Chapra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·18	38·70	41·00
SOUTH BEHAR	Shahabad	Buxar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·18	34·23	39·00
		Dumraon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	38·31	?
		Bhabua	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·10	41·30	47·10
		Sasaram	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·15	36·68	43·36
		Arrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·16	41·34	41·79
		Mohania	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	?	?
	Gya	Aurungabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·16	38·70	41·70
		Gya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·12	45·87	49·55
		Nowadah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·16	38·01	41·10
		Sherghati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·16	40·77	41·54
		Jehanabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	41·18	?
		Daudnagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	23·01	?
		Sherghati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	30·46	?
		Rajauli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?
		Pakri Barawan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	22·24	?
	Patna	Patna	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·15	27·17	37·[illegible]
		Bihar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·12	38·41	42·[illegible]
		Barh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·16	35·51	40·[illegible]
		Bikram	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·04	30·06	40·30
		Hilsa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	40·05	?
										Nil	Nil	0·03	?	34·67	?
	Monghyr	Bhagwanpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·16	41·63	47·61
		Monghyr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0·02	0·24	47·26	47·41
		Jamui	...	...	...	0·08	...	...	...	1	0·08	0·08	0·20	40·14	41·51
		Giddhaur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	42·63	?
		Sheikhpura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	34·69	?
	South Bhagalpore	Bhagalpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·23	41·33	42·73
		Banka	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·21	38·30	40·[illegible]
		Kolgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	42·45	?
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Rajmehal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·74	37·19	33·23
		Godda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·10	40·56	41·[illegible]
		Pakaur	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·09	1	0·09	0·09	0·25	38·71	35·[illegible]
		Nya Doomka	...	...	...	...	...	0·35	...	1	0·35	0·35	0·35	46·31	36·31
		Deoghur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·15	47·21	52·00
		Jamtara	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·25	40·52	51·06
		Sarra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil		?		?
		Sainthia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	38·91	?
CHOTA NAGPUR.	Hazaribagh	Chatra (Circuit).	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·27	47·41	49·31
		Hazaribagh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·22	47·58	48·[illegible]
		Serengatti	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·05	41·27	46·11
		Ramgarh Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·06		49·[illegible]
		Doomri Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	38·97	34·[illegible]
		Bagodi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	39·70	?
		Chatra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	46·19	?
		Kurrugdeha	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	31·40	?
		Kasighar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	31·54	?
	Lohardugga	Lohardugga	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	47·59	?
		Gumla	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·42	38·38	36·[illegible]
		Chainpur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·25	50·71	36·[illegible]
		Silli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?
		Ranchi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	?	?
		Hazaribagh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	38·90	?
		Barwah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	34·95	?
	Singhbhum	Chaibassa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0·04	0·50	35·11	36·[illegible]
		Dhalbhum-gurh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0·13	?	41·69	?
		Chaibassa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0·15	?	34·84	?
		Baharagora	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	41·18	?
	Manbhoom	Purulia	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·52	46·53	51·[illegible]
		Gobindpore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·07	39·70	47·[illegible]
		Raghunathpore.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	39·64	?
		Burrabhoom	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	46·32	?
		Jhalda	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?
		Chas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?

Explanation.—Indicates that no rain has fallen. If the return for any day has not been received, the corresponding space is left blank. If any of the returns are wanting the corresponding spaces in the total rainfall columns are left blank.

CALCUTTA, *the 24th April* 1888.

SUMMARY OF THE RAINFALL AND METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN IN BENGAL FOR THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, THE 20TH OF APRIL 1888.

At the close of the previous week, ordinary hot weather conditions prevailed over the whole of Bengal. Dry westerly winds, which had a more or less northerly element in them at the northern stations, while they were south-westerly at the southern stations, prevailed over the greater part of the province. Temperature was unusually high, while pressure was low, and there were very few local storms or nor'-westers reported, so that rain was practically absent from the province. These conditions remained unaltered, except for the usual oscillations of pressure and temperature, and slight changes in the wind directions, up till Tuesday, the 17th, and on the morning of Wednesday, the 18th, the meteorological observations taken at the eastern stations showed that a decided change was taking place, for at all the stations on the Arakan and Burma coasts, and at the stations in North and partly in East Bengal, an easterly wind current set in, attended at some of these stations also with an unusually rapid rise of pressure. This easterly wind current then gradually forced its way across Bengal, and at the close of the week more or less easterly winds were reported over the greater part of the province. The interaction between the two opposing wind systems at once caused the weather conditions to become disturbed over the province, and thus nor'-westers with rain occurred, and with the extension of the interaction, the area affected by the disturbed conditions gradually enlarged. Thus in East Bengal, from the 17th and 18th, local storms occurred frequently, in North Bengal the disturbance commenced on the 19th, and South-West Bengal received showers on the 20th. Up till the end of the week, however, Behar, Orissa and Chutia Nagpur had not come under the influence of this action, and practically no rain has fallen in these districts.

Pressure.—Except in the north and east of the province, the barometric changes during the week have generally been small, but, as stated above, a rapid increase took place in these districts on the 18th, amounting in several cases to nearly two-tenths of an inch. Over the remainder of the province pressure usually fell for the first three or four days of the week, then rose for two days and commenced to fall again slightly at the end of the week. Taking into consideration only those stations from which observations have been received for a series of years, and which thus give reliable averages, the mean pressure for the week of the whole province has been nearly 0·06 inch in defect of the normal. The largest defects have been reported at Gya (0·088 inch) and at Calcutta (0·075 inch).

Temperature—Was again unusually high during the greater part of the week, but with the setting in of the disturbed conditions, and with the occurrence of rain, temperature fell decidedly. Up to about the 18th exceptionally high maximum temperatures were reported in almost all districts, and the following figures will show this fact clearly :—

At Midnapore	on the	18th	maximum temperature was	...	112·4°
,, Chyebassa	,,	19th	ditto	...	111·6°
,, Ranigunge	,,	18th	ditto	...	110·5°
,, Cuttack	,,	19th	ditto	...	110·4°
,, Bankoora	,,	15th	ditto	...	110·3°
,, Gya	,,	18th	ditto	...	109·2°
,, Burdwan	,,	18th	ditto	...	108·9°
,, Nya Doomka	,,	18th	ditto	...	108·7°
,, Berhampore	,,	18th	ditto	...	108·2°

For the whole week the mean temperature of the province has again been rather largely above the normal, the excess being 2·2°. The excess temperature has, however, to a great extent been confined to the west of the province; in Chutia Nagpur it amounts to no less than 4·7° and in South-West Bengal to 3·5°.

The following table which contains the actual temperatures during the week, and their variations from the normal at nine typical stations in the province, will show the general temperature distribution clearly :—

Table showing the excess or defect of the actual mean temperature from the normal for the week ending 20th April 1888.

	Normal mean maximum temperature for the week ending 20th April.	Actual mean maximum temperature for the week ending 20th April 1888.	Variation of actual mean from the normal.	Normal mean minimum temperature for the week ending 20th April.	Actual mean minimum temperature for the week ending 20th April 1888.	Variation of actual mean from the normal.	Normal mean daily temperature for the week ending 20th April.	Actual mean daily temperature for the week ending 20th April 1888.	Variation of actual mean from the normal.
Cuttack	105·9	106·8	+0·9	77·8	80·3	+2·7	90·6	93·9	+3·3
Calcutta	90·7	98·2	+2·5	75·8	78·1	+2·3	85·3	88·0	+2·8
Dacca	93·9	97·8	+2·1	74·4	77·6	+3·1	85·0	89·0	+4·0
Burdwan	100·7	108·4	+5·7	76·5	78·9	+3·4	88·1	93·7	+5·6
Pabna	101·7	104·2	+2·9	73·0	76·5	+3·5	87·3	90·4	+3·2
Gya	102·8	106·9	+4·0	74·8	72·3	−2·5	88·8	89·0	+0·2
Purneah	99·1	101·0	+1·9	69·3	71·0	+1·8	84·2	86·0	+1·8
Hazaribagh	97·0	101·9	+4·9	71·6	76·3	+4·7	84·3	89·1	+4·8
Darjeeling	68·2	64·7	+1·5	48·4	50·7	+2·2	58·6	57·7	+1·0

Rainfall—Has been general in East Bengal, fairly general in South-West Bengal and local in North Bengal, while elsewhere the amounts have been so small as to be unimportant. East Bengal has received an average fall of 0·95 inch, South-West Bengal one of 0·38 inch and North Bengal one of 0·16 inch. In East Bengal the districts which have received the heaviest falls are Noakholly, Commilla, Dacca and Mymensingh. In South-West Bengal the districts of Moorshedabad, Nuddea, Jessore and Khoolna have received good rain the remaining districts receiving only small quantities, while in North Bengal the rain has [illegible] the districts of Darjeeling, Rungpore and Pubna.

The following table gives the summary of the temperature and rainfall data of each of the seven meteorological divisions of the province for the week ending Friday, the 20th of April 1888 :—

Meteorological Divisions.	Temperature.						Rainfall.									
	Highest observed during week.	Lowest observed during week.	Average for week.			Average excess of week above or below normal except of week.	Of week.			Rainy days.			Since 1st of Month.		Since 15th May 1887.	
			Of highest of each day.	Of lowest of each day.	Of mean for each day.		Average.	Normal average.	Variation.	Average number in week.	Normal average number in week.	Variation.	Average.	Normal average.	Average.	Normal average.
Orissa	110·4	70·8	94·9	78·4	82·1	+1·3	0·61	0·34	—0·33	0·1	0·7	—0·6	0·72	0·80	47·03	57·07
South-West Bengal ...	112·4	71·2	103·8	78·6	91·2	+3·4	0·38	0·38	0	0·7	0·8	—0·1	0·46	1·02	50·27	55·77
East Bengal	106·5	64·7	92·2	75·0	84·1	+0·8	0·93	0·75	+0·25	1·0	1·5	+0·5	1·25	1·07	52·51	51·38
North Bengal	105·6	63·3	90·2	72·4	85·8	+1·3	0·16	0·35	—0·19	0·4	0·8	—0·4	0·16	0·99	75·88	78·98
North Behar	108·0	67·0	96·0	73·0	80·2	+1·4	Nil	0·12	—0·12	0·0	0·3	—0·3	Nil	0·30	53·07	49·70
South Behar	110·0	69·3	104·8	74·1	90·2	+2·9	0·02	0·10	—0·08	0·1	0·3	—0·2	0·02	0·20	42·87	45·19
Central Nagpur	105·0*	73·4*	102·1*	76·0*	89·4*	+4·7*	Nil	0·10	—0·10	0·0	0·5	—0·4	0·01	0·26	46·59	51·34

* Observations not included.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL;
The 24th April 1888.

A. PEDLER,
Offg. Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, from 15th to 21st April 1888.

Month.	Date.	Temperature.				Mean wet bath.	Hygrometry.			Rain.
		Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.		Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	
1888.		°	°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%	Inches.
April ...	15th ...	88·5	103·8	26·0	77·8	76·8	·761	71·0	56	Nil.
" ...	16th ...	87·7	101·2	23·4	77·8	79·6	·903	76·1	69	"
" ...	17th ...	87·9	98·4	17·8	80·6	81·9	1·010	79·5	76	"
" ...	18th ...	88·0	97·[illegible]	16·2	80·8	81·7	·998	79·2	75	"
" ...	19th ...	88·1	96·8	15·8	80·0	81·0	·991	79·0	80	"
" ...	20th ...	82·8	94·0	18·0	76·0	77·7	·853	75·5	79	"
" ...	21st ...	85·7	95·6	16·4	79·2	78·4	·875	75·2	71	"

The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	° 86·7
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	27·8
The maximum temperature ...	...	...	...	103·8
The mean relative humidity ...	...	...	...	% 72
The total fall of rain from 15th to 21st April 1888		...	...	Inches. Nil.

The mean temperature and humidity are obtained by applying to the mean of the 10h, 16h, and minimum readings a correction dependent on the range, and derived from the hourly observations at the Surveyor-General's Office, Chowringhee, in past years.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA;
The 23rd April 1888.

ALEX. PEDLER,
For Offg. Meteorological Reporter the Govt. of India.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 15th to 21st April 1888.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours of bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	Temperature. Mean.	Temperature. Maximum.	Temperature. Range.	Temperature. Minimum.	Hygrometry. Mean wet bulb.	Hygrometry. Vapour tension.	Hygrometry. Dew point.	Hygrometry. Humidity.	Wind. Prevailing direction.	Wind. Miles recorded.	Rain.	Weather.
1888.		°		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches	°	%			Inches.	
April	15th	155·5	9·7	29·668	88·4	102·3	24·1	78·2	77·3	0·789	72·1	62	SSW and SW ...	164	Nil.	Chiefly clear.
"	16th	153·7	9·0	·673	87·5	98·8	22·0	76·8	76·4	·809	76·0	71	S and SSW ...	188	"	Clear.
"	17th	150·8	8·2	·653	87·5	90·4	16·0	80·4	81·1	·877	78·5	75	S and SSW ...	243	"	Chiefly clear.
"	18th	151·6	9·4	·707	87·0	94·4	13·8	80·6	81·3	·884	78·7	76	SSW and S ...	200	"	Chiefly cloudy, o.
"	19th	152·2	8·0	·738	86·3	93·1	13·1	80·0	79·5	·822	76·8	74	S and SSW ...	249	Not measurable.	Chiefly cloudy, d, ☄
"	20th	155·0	2·7	·748	81·8	92·1	15·9	76·2	76·9	·812	76·4	77	SSE, SSW & Variable	186	"	Cloudy, o, d.
"	21st	152·8	8·2	·834	85·2	93·4	13·7	79·7	76·4	·789	72·2	64	SSE, S and Variable	233	"	Chiefly cloudy, o, d, d. <

	Inches.
The mean pressure of the seven days	29·717
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	29·750
	Hours.
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	56·1
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	88·8
	°
The mean temperature of the seven days	86·8
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	84·9
The extreme variation of temperature	26·1
The maximum temperature	102·3
	Miles.
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	18
	lbs.
The highest pressure of wind on one square foot	3
	%
The mean relative humidity	71
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office	70
	Inches.
The total fall of rain from 15th to 21st April 1888	Nil.
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	0·33
The total fall from 1st January to 21st April 1888	4·89
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	3·74

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph, and from observations made at 6h. 10h. 16h. and 22h.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified, and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard Newman's No. 86, formerly ■ the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

o overcast, d drizzling rain, ☄ dust storm, < lightning.

ALEX. PEDLER,

For Offg. Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA;
Calcutta, the 23rd April 1888.

MEMORANDUM.

THE birth and death returns of the principal Municipalities in Bengal yield the following results for the week ending 7th April 1888 :—

1. The ratios per mille of births and deaths for the period above referred to stand at, for births 19·9 and for deaths 27·5, the records of the preceding week ending 31st March presenting very nearly the same proportions, viz., 20·1 and 27·8 respectively.

2. That the following Municipalities registered the highest proportions of births and deaths :—

Births.	Ratio per mille.	*Deaths.*	Ratio per mille.
Beauleah	44·6	Serampore	78·5
Comillah	42·4	Utterpara	56·7
Bhagulpore	38·0	Suburbs of Calcutta	50·9
Bali	35·1	Chittagong	47·0
Monghyr	32·6	Narainganj	45·6
		Bhagulpore	41·6
		Jessore	36·7
		Beauleah	34·1
		Comillah	30·8
		Gya	29·4

3. That, as compared with the results of the preceding week, there was a sensible abatement of mortality from cholera, and only fractional increases in the casualty-rates from injury and the maladies grouped under the head of "Other causes," small-pox, fever and bowel-complaints presenting no variations :—

	Ratio per *mille* during the weeks ending— 7th April 1888.	31st March 1888.
Cholera	8·1	9·2
Small-pox	·2	·2
Fever	9·0	9·0
Bowel-complaints	2·7	2·7
Injury	·4	·2
Other causes	7·0	6·4

4. That the highest fatal results from cholera, fever and the diseases classed under the head of "Other causes" were returned from the following Municipalities, the rest of the maladies not proving noticeably fatal anywhere :—

Cholera.	Ratio per mille.	*Fever.*	Ratio per mille.	*Other causes.*	Ratio per mille.
Utterpara	56·7	Beauleah ...	28·9	Bhagulpore	15·4
Serampore	51·0	Chittagong ...	28·2	Puri	14·7
Jessore	36·7			Gya	13·7
Suburbs of Calcutta ...	23·2			Suburbs of Calcutta ...	11·8
Narainganj	18·0				
Howrah	15·5				
Comillah	15·4				
Hugili	5·3				
Dacca	4·5				

It will be noticed that the mortality from cholera in the Serampore, the Suburbs of Calcutta and Comillah towns, although yet high, was considerably below that of the preceding week, and that the same disease prevailed in the Utterpara and Jessore towns with greater severity.

5. That in relation to *Sex*, *Class* and *Age* the mortality stood as follows :—

According to Sex.	Ratio per mille.	*According to Class.*	Ratio per mille.	*According to Age.*	Ratio per mille.
Males	30·9	Christians	8·7	Under 1 year ...	338·4
Females	23·7	Hindus	27·2	1 and under 5 years ...	40·2
Ratio of male deaths to every 100 female deaths	148	Mahomedans ...	29·2	5 " 10 " ...	13·1
				10 " 15 " ...	8·6
				15 " 20 " ...	15·7
				20 " 30 " ...	20·9
				30 " 40 " ...	22·1
				40 " 50 " ...	20·4
				50 " 60 " ...	30·2
				60 years and upwards ...	52·6

K. P. GUPTA, M.D., F.R.C.S., *Surgeon-Major,*
Offg. Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.

The 23rd April 1888.

Statement showing the Results of the Registration of Births and Deaths in the principal municipalities in Bengal during the week ending 7th April 1888.

1	2			3			4			5			6	7								8								9	10		11		12
				POPULATION.			BIRTHS.							MORTALITY ACCORDING TO—																					
														Disease.																		Sex.			
	NAME OF SUBDIVISIONAL PARTITIONS.						NUMBER OF—			RATIO PER 1,000 OF POPULATION PER ANNUM.			Ratio of male births to every 100 female births.	DEATHS FROM—								RATIO PER 1,000 OF POPULATION PER ANNUM.								Ratio of deaths per 1,000 of population per annum in the principal towns.	DEATHS.		RATIO PER 1,000 OF POPULATION PER ANNUM.		Ratio of male deaths to every 100 female deaths.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.				Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Bowel-complaints.	Injury.	Other diseases.	All causes.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Bowel-complaints.	Injury.	Other diseases.	All causes.		Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
	Burdwan	18,463	16,417	34,850	7	4	11	10·3	9·1	19·3	175	...	...	9	2	...	3	13		...	10·2	3·0		3·0	19·3		18·3	6	5	23·0	16·2		160
	Midnapore	16,917	16,633	33,560	7	4	11	10·8	9·2	17·0	175	2	...	6	1	...	3	12	3·1	...	0·5	1·5		1·5	10·0		9·3	4	7	23·0	18·4		300
	Hooghly and Chinsurah	19,159	19,559	38,718	9	9	18	12·1	12·1	24·2	100	4	...	3	6	...	2	15	2·6	...	4·7	6·7	...	2·7	8·0		23·4	9	10	16·3	28·6		60
	Serampore	13,559	12,057	25,616	8	5	13	17·7	9·8	25·5	184	23	...	6	5	...	5	41	8·5	...	17·6	7·0	...	7·0	73·3		84·5	30	10	117·1	40·2		300
	Uttarpara	3,046	2,464	5,510	1	...	1	9·4	...	9·4	No female births.	4	...	...	...	...	...	4	34·7	...					34·7		34·7	3	...	34·7		No female births.	
	Howrah	13,133	37,464	50,513	15	10	54	6·8	10·8	19·0	74	27	1	7	4	...	9	48	25·5	3	4·0	2·3	...	3·2	37·3		66·3	28	20	27·1	27·8		140
	Hall	7,554	4,959	12,513	8	4	30	21·1	18·3	39·1	150	1	...	1	1	...	1	4	3·3		3·3	3·3	...	3·3	13·0		33·1	2	2	13·3	16·9		100
	Suburbs of Calcutta	147,293	109,221	231,439	35	20	114	11·8	12·2	23·8	93	112	...	57	15	5	57	240	29·1	...	11·8	3·6	3·0	11·8	20·9		61·7	137	99	31·9	40·1		118
	Kishnaghur	12,873	14,813	27,677	4	7	11	7·5	13·9	21·8	57	...	...	3	...	...	4	7	...	...	6·7	...	...	7·0	13·2		17·0	5	2	19·6	7·8		250
	Ranaghat	4,164	4,655	8,819	2	...	2	12·9	...	12·9	No female births.	...	...	2	...	2	...	4	...	...	12·9	...	12·9		25·8		...	3	1	38·8	7·8		300
	Santipore	12,719	13,970	26,689	5	2	6	6·3	3·0	9·3	150	...	...	6	...	...	3	9	...	...	14·5	...	...	9·0	11·6		35·1	1	...	15·2	9·0		300
	Jessore	4,559	3,946	8,505	2	2	4	12·2	12·2	24·3	100	6	...	...	...	...	6	6	30·7					...	3·1			7	1	7·7	31·0		500
	Rampore Beauleah	10,766	9,125	19,891	6	11	17	16·7	24·2	41·0	55	...	1	11	1	...	...	13		2·0	16·9	2·0	...	...	17·9		38·8	5	8	13·3	5·9		275
	Darjiling*	3,920	2,967	7,074	1	...	1	6·3	...	6·3	No female births.	...	...	3	...	...	...	3	...	...	19·5	...	...	...	19·5		58·5	2	1	12·8	17·0		200
	Dacca	52,752	37,379	89,131	15	9	24	3·4	3·4	6·8	100	7	...	7	4	...	3	21	1·3	...	4·5	2·1	...	3·4	7·1		17·1	10	8	21·1	11·1		217
	Narainganj	7,995	4,386	12,381	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4	...	4	2	...	3	11	...	...	5·4	5·4	...	12·9	13·5		31·8	5	6	31·1	1·8		83
	Chittagong	13,310	8,201	22,130	6	5	11	13·5	11·7	25·2	120	3	...	12	2	1	2	20	7·0	...	19·0	6·7	2·3	6·7	37		69·7	12	8	17·1	17·1		150
	Comillah	8,153	8,535	16,688	7	5	11	16·5	13·9	30·4	120	1	...	1	1	...	2	5	1·2	...	8·8	8·5	...	7·7	8		25·3	5·1	5	20·1	10·1		100
	Patna City	75,703	81,477	157,180	11	17	28	7·2	8·3	15·5	78	1	1	24	7	1	5	41	3	...	7·8	2·3	...	5·0	7·1		18·1	21	21	15·7	19·6		91
	Gya	38,250	37,131	75,381	21	16	37	11·7	8·6	20·3	200	2	1	17	8	...	20	48	1·1	2	16·6	2·0	...	1·7	19·4		39·4	21	22	19·0	8·2		95
	Arrah	20,901	22,504	43,405	10	6	16	12·0	7·2	19·2	100	...	...	6	1	...	4	11	...	...	7·2	1·9	...	1·4	1·7		12·2	1	5	1·9	10·5		44
	Muzaffarpore	23,094	22,654	45,748	4	...	4	1·9	...	1·9	No female births.	...	...	...	...	2	3	5	...	...	...	...	2·1	3·1	4·1		11·4	4	2	8·7	5·8		120
	Durbhanga	32,771	32,353	65,124	13	18	31	19·2	18·0	37·2	142	3	...	9	9	...	7	28	...	...	7·1	2·1	...	2·8	13·2		25·4	16	20	17·4	6·1		104
	Chupra	29,614	27,206	56,820	1	3	4	1·0	1·3	2·3	33	...	...	5	...	...	...	5	...	...	2·0	...	...	...	2·0		3·0	2	3	4·0	1·0		100
	Bhagulpore	28,240	27,813	57,416	20	23	43	18·1	21·8	39·9	93	...	1	20	7	1	17	46	...	1	18·1	6·9	0·9	15·1	11·6		39·0	30	16	32·5	25·9		187
	Monghyr	25,151	22,705	47,856	19	17	36	17·2	15·0	32·2	111	...	...	5	4	1	7	21	...	...	8·1	3·4	0·9	6·3	19·2		44·9	13	8	31·0	14·2		162
	Purneah	8,463	8,353	16,816	1	1	2	0·4	0·4	0·8	100	...	...	3	...	...	1	4	...	...	10·4	...	...	3·4	13·5		27·3	2	3	23·5	13·9		100
	Pooree	13,217	11,537	24,754	6	4	10	12·0	8·7	20·7	150	1	...	...	2	...	7	10	2·1	...	...	4·2	...	14·7	24·0		29·9	7	3	37·5	13·3		233
	TOTAL	702,830	619,697	1,322,527	253	212	465	10·4	8·5	18·9	109	197	5	220	70	11	178	706	8·1	2	9·4	0·7	4	7·9	27·5		52·8	436	332	33·9	21·7		141

* A special census of the Europeans in the Darjiling Municipality was recently taken, as the census of this section of the community, taken in February 1888, was not reliable owing to the Europeans being at a minimum in that month. The number of the natives remains as before, so it was not necessary to re-census them. The ratios have since quickly been calculated on the revised population under all heads in the above table except "Age," the ratios under which have been omitted, inasmuch as the census of the Europeans above alluded to cannot be employed as a basis of calculation owing to the results of the census under this head not having been compiled under the statistical form of age classification.

Districts.	Name of Municipalities.	13					14					15												16								
		Mortality according to—																														
		Class.										Age.																				
		Deaths among—					Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.					Deaths.												Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.								
		Christians.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Buddhists.	Other classes.	Christians.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Buddhists.	Other classes.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 30 years.	30 and under 40 years.	40 and under 50 years.	50 and under 60 years.	60 and under 70 years.	70 years and upwards.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 30 years.	30 and under 40 years.	40 and under 50 years.	50 and under 60 years.	60 years and upwards.
Burdwan	Burdwan	...	11	2	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	1	3	3	1	2	[illegible]	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Midnapore	Midnapore	...	11	1	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	3	2	2	1	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Hughli	Hughli and Chinsurah	...	7	5	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	2	...	2	...	2	...	1	3	2	4	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Howrah	Serampore	...	11	[illegible]	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	4	5	4	1	...	[illegible]	5	3	1	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Uttarpara	...	5	1	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	1	1	...		...	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...
	Howrah	...	62	18	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	5	7	3	3	4	12	7	2	...	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]
	Bali	...	4	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Hughli	Suburbs of Calcutta	...	171	93	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	41	59	15	7	11	45	41	24	6	24	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Kishnaghur	...	3	4	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	4	...	1	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	...
	Ranaghat	...	4	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	...
	Santipore	...	6	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	3	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...
Jessore	Jessore	...	4	2	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	1	...	...	1	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	[illegible]
	Bangore Baubah	...	9	4	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	2	...	1	...	1	1	1	2	1	1	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Darjiling	Darjiling	...	3	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	1	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Dacca	Dacca	...	15	11	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	8	1	3	1	2	3	1	2	...	2	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]
	Narainganj	...	8	5	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	2	...	1	...	...	3	...	2	1	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...
Chittagong	Chittagong	...	2	1	16	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	2	1	1	...	1	1	3	3	3	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...
	Cox's Bazar	...	4	4	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	1	2	...	1	...	1	1	...	1	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Patia City	...	32	11	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	6	7	1	3	1	3	4	4	3	3	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Gya	...	35	8	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	15	7	1	...	1	3	7	4	1	7	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Arrah	...	6	7	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	3	...	1	...	...	...	2	...	...	7	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]
	Monghyr	...	4	1	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	3	2	1	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...
	Durbhanga	...	17	3	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	9	5	1	1	1	1	...	1	1	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...
	Bhagalpore	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	2		...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	[illegible]
	Bhagalpore	...	38	3	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	15	3	2	...	...	3	2	2	5	11	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Monghyr	...	32	9	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	4	4	...	...	1	3	1	1	3	4	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
	Purneah	...	2	3	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]
	Pabna	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	...	[illegible]	...	...	...	4	2	...	...	1	1	...	1	...	1	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	[illegible]	...	[illegible]
	Total	...	5	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	...	...	[illegible]	85	[illegible]	19	30	100	57	[illegible]	37	85	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

K. P. GUPTA, M.B., F.R.C.S., *Surgeon-Major,*
Offg. Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.—BENGAL.

IRRIGATION BRANCH.

Statement showing heights over mean sea-level and low-water in the Rivers Ganges, Bhagirathee, Jellinghee and Brahmapootra for the month of March 1888.

	River Ganges.																		River Bhagirathee.		River Jellinghee.		River Brahmapootra.	
	Mirzapore.		Benares.		Buxar.		Dinapore.		Monghyr.		Sub-gauge.*		Rampore Beauleah		Goalundo.		Berhampore.		Serampore.		Gowhatty.	
Miles.			133.	48.	60.		127.	97.	395.	110.	391.	94.	171.	91.	391.	190.						
Distance.	From Allahabad		From Allahabad	From Mirzapore	From Benares.		From Semaria.	From Buxar	From Bonaree.	From Dinapore	From Beauleah	From Monghyr	From Beauleah.	From Sub-gauge	From Beauleah.	From Rampore Beauleah						
	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.	Height over zero of gauge.	Height over mean sea-level.
1st	...	...	1·67	207·69	2·31	199·34	3·23	172·30	2·40	112·49	B. low-zero 1·10	110·45	Below zero 0·70	61·31	0·08	41·92	1·08	16·62	1·37	53·11	3·42	7·75	Below zero 8·65	145·71
2nd	...	...	1·42	207·64	2·33	199·13	3·17	172·22	[illegible]	112·[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	61·42	0·11	41·[illegible]	1·08	16·62	1·35	53·07	3·[illegible]	7·80	8·40	145·34
3rd	...	...	1·42	207·64	2·29	199·60	3·17	[illegible]	[illegible]	111·[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	41·[illegible]	[illegible]	16·12	1·33	53·07	3·17	7·47	8·15	145·61
4th	...	...	1·33	207·55	2·26	199·55	3·13	172·08	[illegible]	111·[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	53·05	1·29	6·89	8·46	145·70
5th	...	...	1·17	207·[illegible]	2·20	199·[illegible]	3·09	172·[illegible]	[illegible]	111·[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1·50	6·59	8·60	144·96
6th	...	...	[illegible]	207·[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	144·95
7th	...	...	[illegible]	207·[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	145·96
8th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	145·71
9th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	146·74
10th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	147·94
11th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	148·14
12th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	148·56
13th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	149·[illegible]
14th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	149·56
15th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	149·70
16th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
17th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	147·66
18th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
19th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	148·73
20th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	150·14
21st	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	150·76
22nd	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	150·40
23rd	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	150·36
24th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	149·76
25th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	148·78
26th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	149·56
27th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	150·60
28th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	150·36
29th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	150·10
30th	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	151·16
31st	...	...	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	151·01

* The Executive Engineer, Bhagulpore Division, has made [illegible] readings [illegible] 1st December 1887 to 4th April 1888, which were taken on temporary [illegible] pal or without [illegible], are unreliable, showing the river at Sahebgunge abnormally low.

A. D. McARTHUR, *Major*, R.E.,
Under-Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

The 24th April 1888.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 21st April 1888, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

Nature of Cargo.	Week ending Saturday, the 21st April, 1888.			Week ending Saturday, the 23rd April, 1887.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	285	77,365	1,314	337	98,926	1,718
Jute	14	5,850	46	10	3,514	159
Firewood	79	42,090	512	87	44,400	637
Other articles	551	135,700	1,959	694	1,98,375	2,680
Total ...	929	2,61,545	3,864	1,128	3,50,214	5,213

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 1,513½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	258,008	2,69,745 4 0	27,50,193 8	6,72,677 0 0	18,257 0 0	9,80,659 4 0	85,808	101,1994	186,5074
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	178 6 6	.....	444 6 1	12 1 0	647 13 7	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	3,700,540	43,77,557 15 0	3,49,62,440 10	92,20,623 8 4	3,14,568 1 10	1,39,12,089 9 2	921,391	1,466,166	2,386,417½
Total for 15 weeks ...	3,958,548	46,67,303 3 0	4,17,12,633 10	98,93,300 8 4	3,32,165 1 10	1,48,92,748 13 2	994,0[illegible]	1,567,355½	2,562,018½
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	224,450	2,70,000 4 3	28,01,149 26	6,06,472 3 11	18,156 16 3	9,83,625 7 6	68,042	114,942	183,984
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	177 12 4	.....	407 3 1	12 0 9	647 0 2	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	3,846,070	44,77,220 14 4	4,00,00,902 0	1,92,31,654 4 11	2,81,312 7 2	1,49,96,087 10 5	1,011,165	1,610,471	2,710,030

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the East Indian Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 10th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 16th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
1,519	9,85,966	649	1,513½	9,80,659	648	1,519	22,09,445	727	1,513½	19,20,028	637	.....	3,40,337

PATNA-GYA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 57½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	17,963	9,935 12 0	65,835 20	3,067 4 0	49 4 0	13,052 0 0	1,750	659	2,394
Or per mile of railway	314	157 15 0	861 30	64 1 10	0 12 8	222 15 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	210,968	1,16,107 13 6	4,88,138 30	31,850 6 0	698 2 0	1,48,515 4 0	25,833	8,023	33,856
Total for 15 weeks ...	228,931	1,25,[illegible] 8 6	5,53,974 20	35,923 10 0	715 2 0	1,61,567 4 0	27,[illegible]	8,681	36,[illegible]
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	14,758	6,354 0 3	83,890 0	3,012 4 0	41 7 0	10,311 2 0	1,000	655	2,451
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	224	111 3 6	941 20	68 6 4	0 12 5	180 4 5	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	233,[illegible]	1,21,[illegible] 9 3	6,38,251 30	31,478 5 9	814 4 0	1,74,173 1 8	25,[illegible]	14,[illegible]	40,[illegible]

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Patna-Gya State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 10th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 16th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
[illegible]	11,[illegible]	198	57½	11,[illegible]	193	57½	[illegible]	227	57½	11,[illegible]	200	.....	2,379

DILDARNAGAR-GHAZIPUR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 12 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	3,045	512 13 0	16,847 10	461 13 0	25 0 0	526 10 0	335½	358	693½
Or per mile of railway	.....	42 57 9	.....	38 11 9	2 4 0	43 15 6	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	41,387	6,962 1 0	3,01,032 20	6,432 3 0	161 8 0	13,657 7 0	4,739	2,175	6,909
Total for 15 weeks ...	44,432	7,477 14 0	3,21,879 30	6,897 0 0	178 3 0	14,553 1 0	5,074½	2,533	7,607½
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	2,875½	403 10 9	23,318 25	710 15 0	9 4 0	1,123 15 9	152	212	364
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	11 2 3	.....	59 3 11	0 12 4	101 2 6	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	46,430	7,477 15 9	3,05,426 20	7,611 10 6	121 8 0	15,240 15 9	5,015	2,391	7,406

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Dildarnagar-Ghazipur State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1885.

Receipts for week ending 16th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 16th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
12	1,214	101	12	996	83	12	2,451	102	12	1,963	82	.....	449

SINDIA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 74¾ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	5,852	3,896 7 0	89,461 20	3,737 14 0	371 5 0	7,995 10 6	673	1,295½	1,968½
Or per mile of railway	.....	50 14 3	.....	49 10 7	4 9 11	102 7 5	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	71,910	53,090 8 0	19,[illegible],310 30	60,056 14 0	1,826 3 0	1,14,972 7 0	9,456½	21,613½	31,070
Total for 15 weeks ...	77,774	57,146 12 0	19,[illegible],771 10	62,794 12 0	2,197 8 0	1,22,968 1 0	10,129½	22,908½	33,038½
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	6,394½	6,135 1 8	93,791 20	3,456 4 0	208 10 0	8,769 15 6	822	1,272	2,094
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	82 10 0	.....	45 14 0	2 10 11	117 8 11	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	67,394½	67,748 12 3	15,87,707 20	72,444 14 0	1,695 0 0	1,40,888 11 3	11,520	18,966	30,486

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Sindia State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1885.

Receipts for week ending 16th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 16th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
74¾	5,770	77	74¾	7,696	103	74¾	10,879	146	74¾	13,665	183	—	3,217

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 22½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	39,100	11,530 8 0	4,734 30	171 14 0	8 13 0	11,711 5 0	944	98	1,013
Or per mile of railway ...	.....	512 3 8	.....	7 11 7	0 6 0	520 5 6	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	290,496	79,850 11 0	1,721,029 30	4,427 4 0	185 1 0	84,393 0 0	12,514	1,140	13,654
Total for 15 weeks ...	337,596	91,381 4 0	1,725,764 20	4,599 2 0	194 13 0	96,104 5 0	13,458	1,238	14,696
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	34,534	10,138 1 8	6,678 0	271 11 0	11 10 0	10,421 7 8	1,193	37	1,232
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	451 8 8	.....	12 6 7	0 8 8	467 7 8	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	324,162	95,147 4 0	1,31,491 30	4,582 15 0	201 8 3	99,931 11 3	14,571	719	15,290

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Tarkessur Branch Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI. Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 14th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 14th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
22½	10,603	467	22½	11,711	520	22½	19,873	447	22½	20,848	469	963	.....

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(Including N. B., Dacca, K. and D., and Assam-Behar Sections.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 676 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated), including steamer-boat.	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	128,501	65,853 0 0	4,31,423 0	70,923 0 0	11,760 0 0	1,47,536 0 0	14,654	22,469	44,023
Or per mile of railway	190	97 0 0	712 0	105 0 0	3 0 0†	218 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	1,688,654	9,16,394 0 0	74,31,191 0	10,67,746 0 0	2,11,453 0 0	22,72,593 0 0*	295,768	309,194	593,881
Total for 14 weeks ...	1,817,160	10,81,248 0 0	79,12,571 0	11,38,776 0 0	2,22,159 0 0	24,20,129 0 0	310,422	327,515	637,937
COMPARISON.									
Total for corresponding nine days of previous year ...	167,723	84,946 0 0	5,03,154 0	99,875 0 0	16,671 0 0	1,02,490 0 0	25,919	21,292	51,210
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	249	125 0 0	745 0	125 0 0	7 0 0†	204 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	1,974,923	9,58,503 0 0	80,98,795 0	11,38,686 0 0	1,85,716 0 0	22,82,905 0 0	302,103	291,852	593,957

* Audited up to 3rd March 1888.
† Excluding steamer earnings.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Eastern Bengal State Railway.

Receipts for first 9 days of April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total Receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total Receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888-89.	Total decrease in 1888-89.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
98	2,22,446	226	676	1,47,539	218	98	1,82,460	283	676	1,47,063	218	.....	35,351

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 125 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	24,530	8,898 0 0	61,095 0	4,872 0 0	145 0 0	13,935 0 0	8,017	1,833	9,850
Or per mile of railway ...	196	71 0 0	489 0	39 0 0	1 0 0	111 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	340,852	1,32,050 0 0	6,70,694 0	49,541 0 0	8,208 0 0	1,73,799 0 0*	45,903	22,080	68,784
Total for 14 weeks ...	365,372	1,41,018 0 0	7,40,789 0	54,413 0 0	8,373 0 0	1,87,641 0 0	53,920	24,813	78,734
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding 9 days of previous year	27,870	11,615 0 0	70,989 0	5,134 0 0	96 0 0	16,876 0 0	4,402	2,345	6,747
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	221	93 0 0	567 0	41 0 0	1 0 0	135 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	362,161	1,23,911 0 0	5,98,030 0	35,152 0 0	724 0 0	1,30,786 0 0	60,291	13,671	73,962

* Audited up to week ending 3rd March 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Bengal Central Railway.

Receipts for first 9 days of April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1887-88.	Total decrease in 1887-88.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
125	16,875	135	125	13,935	111	125	16,874	135	125	13,935	111	.....	2,945

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 86 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	15,999	4,425 0 0	3,045 0	606 0 0	60 0 0	5,091 0 0	2,141	903	3,104
Or per mile of railway ...	186	51 6 0	35 0	7 0 0	1 0 0	59 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	137,926	55,979 0 0	2,37,110 0	12,460 0 0	2,292 0 0	70,731 0 0*	27,828	12,070	39,898
Total for 14 weeks ...	153,247	60,404 0 0	2,40,155 0	13,066 0 0	2,352 0 0	75,822 0 0	29,969	12,853	42,822
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding 9 days of previous year	21,848	6,194 0 0	4,282 0	1,704 0 0	331 0 0	8,225 0 0	3,238	1,348	4,575
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	251	72 0 0	50 0	20 0 0	4 0 0	96 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	186,459	64,369 0 0	2,73,817 0	23,341 0 0	3,108 0 0	91,741 0 0	33,323	16,156	49,345

* Audited up to week ending 3rd March 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Dacca State Railway.

Receipts for first 9 days of April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1887-88.	Total decrease in 1887-88.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
86	8,225	96	86	3,091	39	86	8,225	96	86	3,091	39	.....	5,134

ASSAM-BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

(PURNEAH SECTION.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 7th April 1888, on 39 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Total traffic for the week ...	2,729	735 0 0	29,891 0	2,696 0 0	10 0 0	3,111 0 0	518	580	1,098
Or per mile of railway ...	70	19 0 0	751 0	69 0 0	.....	80 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 13 weeks of half-year	37,579	15,410 0 0	3,01,101 0	25,763 0 0	482 0 0	39,655 0 0*	7,098	7,098	14,196
Total for 14 weeks ...	40,308	16,145 0 0	3,30,992 0	28,459 0 0	492 0 0	43,766 0 0	7,616	7,616	15,198
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding nine days of previous year ...	3,053	1,088 0 0	25,215 0	2,608 0 0	53 0 0	3,753 0 0	693	693	1,386
Per mileage railway corresponding period of previous year ...	78	28 0 0	646 0	67 0 0	.....	95 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	3,053	1,088 0 0	25,215 0	2,608 0 0	95 0 0	3,753 0 0	693	693	1,386

* Audited up to week ending 3rd March 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Assam-Behar State Railway.

Receipts for nine days of April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 7th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 9th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 7th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888-89.	Total decrease in 1888-89.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
39	3,722	95	39	3,441	88	39	3,722	95	39	3,441	88	.....	281

NALHATI STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 11th April 1888, on 27½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Total traffic for the week ...	3,121½	1,130 13 3	9,984 30	667 1 0	7 6 14	1,751 5 7	500	254	703
Or per mile of railway	113	41 12 0	363 0	22 5 0	0 4 0	63 4 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half year	46,165½	17,167 2 5	2,53,072 10	13,914 12 0	304 0 2	31,150 7 11	7,126	7,138½	14,264½
Total for 15 weeks ...	49,286	18,298 0 0	2,62,857 0	14,582 0 0	372 0 0	32,888 0 0	7,626	7,392½	15,027½
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	2,690½	962 5 1	10,115 0	648 14 0	10 5 9	1,621 8 1	509	254	763
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	99	36 7 0	371 0	24 4 0	0 6 0	62 1 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	43,655½	17,194 9 0	2,16,103 10	11,860 2 12	436 7 4	29,612 3 3	7,707	6,479	13,186

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Nalhati State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 16th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 16th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
27½	[illegible]	62	27½	1,7[illegible]	64	27½	3,680	65	27½	3,787	69	177	.....

TIRHOOT STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 14th April 1888, on 259 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total Earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Total traffic for the week on 259 miles open	49,763	* 15,296 14 1	1,30,761 0	15,169 6 0	3,201 8 9	34,677 12 4	5,821	4,654	10,475
Or per mile of railway ...	192	59 13 0	505 0	58 8 0	12 11 0	133 15 0*	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	596,7774	2,30,123 1 11	28,32,853 0	3,16,089 10 6	42,303 7 6	5,88,514 3 6	84,443 4	117,009	202,452
Total for 15 weeks ...	639,642	2,51,420 0 0	29,40,417 0	3,31,258 9 6	46,505 9 9	6,23,192 0 0	90,264	121,663	212,927
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 240 miles open	35,920	13,333 1 1	1,20,877 10	13,981 1 6	1,662 11 2	29,976 13 3	6,396	5,347	10,743
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	114	53 9 0	502 0	58 2 0	1 15 0	111 10 3*	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	665,613	2,71,232 2 1	24,82,171 30	2,44,181 10 30	46,060 5 11	5,14,414 2 0	86,712	87,168	173,887

* Steam boat earnings excluded in calculating "Total earnings per mile of Railway."

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Tirhoot State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 16th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 16th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
249	29,977	120	259	32,679	126	240	62,632	126	259	67,037	129	4,355	.....

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

	Rs.
Approximate earnings for week ending 7th April 1888	8,677
Corresponding week last year	11,332
Decrease	2,655
Receipts from 1st January to 7th April 1888	1,13,638
From 1st January to 9th April 1887	95,490
Increase	18,048
	Miles.
Miles open, week ending 7th April 1888	51
Corresponding week last year	51
	Rs. a. p.
Receipts per mile open, week ending 7th April 1888	170 2 2
Corresponding week last year	222 8 3
Decrease	52 1 1

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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CONTENTS.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 67.

The Council met at the Council Chamber on Thursday, the 12th April, 1888.

Present:

The HON. SIR STEUART COLVIN BAYLEY, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *presiding*.
The HON. G. C. PAUL, C.I.E., Advocate General.
The HON. H. J. REYNOLDS, C.S.I.
The HON. C. P. L. MACAULAY, C.I.E.
The HON. T. T. ALLEN.
The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON, KT.
The HON. SIR ALFRED CROFT, K.C.I.E.
The HON. MOULVIE ABDUL JUBBAR.
The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER.
The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, C.I.E.
The HON. C. H. MOORE.
The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE.
The HON. H. PRATT.

BENGAL MUNICIPAL ACT, III OF 1884, AMENDMENT BILL.

The HON. MR. MACAULAY postponed the presentation of the Report of the Select Committee on the Bill to amend the Bengal Municipal Act, III of 1884.

CALCUTTA AND SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITIES AMALGAMATION BILL.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that the clauses of the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the municipal affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, as further amended, be further considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. MR. MACAULAY moved the omission of sections 99 and 100 from the Bill (sections relating to the imposition of a duty on petroleum). He said:—In order to clear the way for the discussion, I may as well inform the Council that a decision of the Government of India has been communicated to the Local Government since the Select Committee decided to adopt these sections. In reference to the question of the contribution from Imperial revenues towards the cost of the police charges, the Government of India have stated that the contribution now assigned to Provincial funds has been fixed on the understanding that petroleum stored in Calcutta shall not be subjected to municipal taxation so long as it is subjected to an Imperial Customs duty. In other words these sections, if adopted by the Council, will remain, for at any rate a considerable period of time, a dead letter. The question then naturally arises, why not leave them out? My hon. friend, Sir Henry Harrison, following the line of reasoning he adopted on another question at our last meeting, will probably rejoin, why not leave them in? My answer is that the principle of an octroi in Bengal is involved. I apprehend that more than one of my colleagues on the Select Committee voted for the inclusion of these sections because they were reluctant to deprive the new municipality of one means of increasing its income which we should all be glad to see augmented. But now that the hope of an increase from this source is removed, they may perhaps change their views. We can put aside the supposed interests of the municipality and look solely to the principle involved. The question comes up on the simple issue whether an octroi can be properly levied, I will not say in Calcutta alone, but in the municipalities of Bengal; and I am glad that the question has been brought to this plain issue. I will not trouble the Council with a disquisition on the arguments for or against an octroi tax. Hon. Members are doubtless well aware of them. On the one hand, if it can be secured that only the fixed rate, and no more and no less, will be levied on articles consumed by the people of a municipality, then octroi will be not only not an objectionable, but a most admirable tax. On the other hand, we know from the many Resolutions of the Government of India that it not only has a tendency to become, but does generally in practice become, a transit duty and a burden on trade. An instance was given by Sir John Strachey in 1879 where a municipality from which cotton was exported charged octroi on the iron brought in for hooping the bales, but refused a refund when it went out on the bales. Many other instances were brought to the notice of Government by the Bombay Chamber of Commerce, which strongly protested against the abuses which the octroi system had given rise to in Bombay municipalities. I shall not dwell further on this point, nor shall I dwell upon the very peculiar provision of the section as it stands, under which the storage of petroleum in transit is to be altogether prohibited in Calcutta. This will no doubt prevent the octroi from becoming a transit duty. But it seems to me to guard against the risk of one evil by ensuring the existence of another. It prevents a difficulty being placed on trade by a transit duty by placing another difficulty on trade, by preventing merchants dealing with a department of commerce which is increasing in volume every day, from transacting their business at a reasonable distance from their offices. They will have to conduct their operations from a distant dépôt, miles out of the town, when, in the area to be included under the Bill, there are places well suited for the purpose. These, however, are not the points which I wish now to urge upon the Council. My objections to the duty are based on broader principles. I maintain that in Bengal, owing to the circumstances of the country and towns, an octroi cannot be levied without the certainty of oppression and corruption and of harassment of the people. Towns in Bengal are not walled or even compact; they are open and straggling, and the most experienced officers of the Government have expressed

Kangni or Kakun. Italian millet. (*Setaria italica.*)			Gram, Chana, Chhola, Kadalat or Sunaga. (*Cicer arietinum.*)		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
...	...	...	13 0	8 0	12 0
...	...	...	11 0	13 0	13 0
...	...	...	14 0	11 0	14 12
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	12 0	12 0	12 0
25 0	29 0	20 0	30 0	26 0	28 0
19 0	19 0	17 0	24 0	23 0	24 0
...	...	...	23 8	21 8	26 0
18 0	18 8	26 0	22 0	20 12	23 0
...	...	...	24 0	22 0	22 0
17 0	18 0	14 0	22 8	20 0	20 0
...	...	...	17 0	14 0	38 0
16 12	21 0	23 8	31 8	27 14	27 8
...	...	...	20 3	20 8	25 4
16 0	16 0	...	26 0	20 8	24 0
...	...	...	20 0	20 0	27 0
...	...	...	22 0	20 0	20 0
..	..	...	21 0	(Kalai.) 1 0	17 1
...	...	...	17 1	(Kalai.) 17 1	14 7
..	...	...	16 0	13 0	15 0
Not procurable			17 0	17 0	20 0
	...	...	18 8	18 0	24 0
	...	...	16 0	14 0	18 0
	...	...	17 0	16 0	18 0

SEERS OF 80 TOLAHS

Bajra or Cumbu. (*Pennisetum typhoideum.*)			Marua or Ragi. (*Eleusine Coracana.*)		
Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.	Present return.	Next preceding return.	Corresponding return of last year.
S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.	S. Ch.
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	26 0	...	...	26 0
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	23 0	31 0	33 0	33 0
...	...	...	30 0	30 0	...
...	...	...	30 0	30 0	27 0
...	...	...	30 0	30 0	30 0
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	32 0	32 0	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...
procurable			25 0	27 0	28 0
...	...	...	33 12	34 0	40 0
...	...	...	...	...	...
...	...	...	...	...	...

strong opinions against the imposition of this form of taxation in towns. In 1868 the Commissioners of Divisions in Bengal reported against it. I will read to the Council the opinion of Sir Ashley Eden, on the Bill introduced by Sir John Strachey in 1879 to regulate the levy of octroi. Mr. Mackenzie's letter of 18th December, 1879, said :—

"The only suggestion which the Lieutenant-Governor has to make is that the Bill should be specifically declared not to extend to the Province of Bengal. It has repeatedly been shown that an octroi duty is not adapted to the circumstances of Bengal towns and villages, and the Lieutenant-Governor can imagine no form of impost which would be more objectionable here. Both Sir Cecil Beadon and Sir William Grey condemned proposals to introduce these duties into Bengal. The general voice of district and divisional officers was against them when Sir George Campbell sought to embody them in his (vetoed) Municipalities Bill of 1872, and Sir Ashley Eden would be very sorry to see any attempt made to re-open the subject so far as this province is concerned."

As I have said, our towns in Bengal are really a series of straggling houses. They are approached by roads and paths, creeks and khalls, and if you are to have an octroi in them, you must have an army of underpaid subordinates to collect the tax at their own sweet wills from the people. To collect an octroi a large staff must be maintained, and, as was pointed out by the Government of India in 1884, the cost of this staff will be unduly high. "In a large open city, moreover," wrote the Government of India, "the cost of collecting establishment must be excessively high, and quite out of due proportion to the receipts." I maintain that such a tax collected by such an agency will, under the appearance of indirect taxation, have all the worst evils of direct taxation. If it is urged that the question before us concerns the levy of octroi in Calcutta only, I would answer that in the first place Calcutta is such a town as I have described. I would remind the Council of the speech of my hon. friend opposite (Mr. Allen) at the last meeting. He pointed out that on this Bill becoming law the boundary of Calcutta on the Ballygunge side will be, not even a village, but a series of paddy fields. Again, if we affirm the principle of octroi in Calcutta, I cannot see how we can refuse it in Howrah, Patna, Dacca, and other towns. Here I will borrow a metaphor of which my hon. friend Sir Henry Harrison is so fond. My friend does not like the closing of doors. Here, however, is a case, not of closing a door which might afterwards be opened, but of opening a door, taking it off its hinges, and carrying it away. Such will be the result of introducing any form of octroi in Bengal. If you admit it in Calcutta you will have it throughout the country. Apart, therefore, from the general question of the economic effects of octroi, I would urge that the tax is unsuited to the towns of this Province, and I ask the Council to affirm this principle by omitting these sections.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said :—I much hope that the Council will not accept this amendment, which will very seriously cripple the new municipality. My hon. friend has supported his amendment on two legs widely different in character. One is the *vis major* of the Government of India. We are told that it will be a condition with regard to this Bill that no duty shall be levied on petroleum so long as a duty is levied on that article by the Supreme Government. When we were in Select Committee it was thought probable that it would involve the rejection of the Bill altogether. I am pleased to find from what has been now said that the form of opposition has toned down, and that the exercise of the power reserved by the Government of refusing permission to raise this tax will be the means of preventing it. But is it just to suppose that the Government of India is so opposed to the proposal that they will not be open to conviction, or that there will be no changes in the *personnel* of that Government? Has the case that can be made out for putting a levy on petroleum in Calcutta ever been put before the Government of India? Has the Corporation had the chance of impressing upon the Government of India their view of the equity of allowing this tax on petroleum? I believe that a case so strong and so forcible can be placed before the Government for allowing this tax that, knowing how open they will be to reasonable conviction, if this provision remains in the law not many years will pass before the view of the Government of India on the subject will be changed. If the Council will agree to retain this provision in the Bill, we are confident that we shall be able to make out so strong a case that in a very few years the Government of India

will allow the levy of this tax. The letter from the Government of India seems to assume that this section will remain in the Bill. Then we have the strong fact that it is in the Bill in Bombay. Bombay levies a duty on spirits in Bombay, although spirits are taxed by the Imperial Government. Bombay has now in their Bill [section 190 and the schedule] the very same tax which we propose to levy on petroleum; they have a duty of two pice per gallon, which comes to about four annas per case. Is it reasonable to suppose that the Government of India will treat Calcutta on one footing and Bombay on another; and provided we can show that the tax will be levied with no harshness except the harshness of having to pay, and without any other particular harassment, is it reasonable to suppose that the Calcutta Corporation will be refused what is granted to the Bombay Corporation?

I then come to the question of octroi, and here I maintain that our position is so unanswerable that my hon. friend is obliged to take up the ground, which is not the ground upon which it is put, that an octroi is unsuitable to municipalities in Bengal. He says that under the circumstances of the case an octroi is so unsuitable to Bengal that it ought not to be introduced. I grant all that. But what is the ground we put forward? It is that the case of petroleum is so exceptional that none of the objections to the introduction of octroi duties, generally, apply to it. We challenge discussion on that ground. But my hon. friend evades that ground, and says that the objections which apply to octroi duties must apply to petroleum. How far is that correct? The history of the case is this. A Committee was appointed by the Government to see how the income of the Calcutta Municipality could be increased, and on that Committee there were representatives from almost every class of the community. Besides myself, there was on that Committee Mr. Craik, Baboo Durga Churn Law, Mr. Morrison, Baboo Kali Nath Mitter, Baboo Jadoo Lall Mullick, Mr. Wallis, and Mr. Buckland who acted as Secretary. After sitting many times and threshing out the question in many forms, we found not a single subject of taxation, except one, on which we could agree, and regarding that one, after discussing it fully, there was not one dissentient voice. Now what was the reason for this? It was unanimity that petroleum being supposed to be a dangerous article is so watched by the law at present at every step, that you can impose a duty upon it without putting on it one single restriction more than what is already put. Is it possible to make out a stronger case? At the present time you cannot introduce petroleum into Calcutta without permission and only under special conditions. You have a depôt for the storage of petroleum far from the Town; you must have a license from the Police for the storage of petroleum in Calcutta; you cannot transport it without a license. So that we have already a complete check on the receipt of petroleum, on the storage of petroleum, and on the transport of petroleum, and consequently we have nothing more to do than to take things as they stand and at a convenient point, when the transport license is given, to impose this duty. The proposed duty on petroleum is so small, it is so easily levied, and the article is so valuable as compared with the duty, that the danger of confiscation is quite enough to prevent any attempt at evasion of the duty, without the necessity for any army of peons and other underlings, or the watching of canals and khals or roads and bye-ways, which is the spectre which my hon. friend has conjured up a reason for not allowing the imposition of a municipal tax on petroleum; and I feel certain that the growth of the trade is such, that the imposition of a small fee in addition to the Imperial duty will in no way protect other oils or prejudice the trade in petroleum. That being so, and a tax on petroleum being recommended unanimously by a Committee specially appointed for the purpose of seeing what extra taxation can be levied for municipal purposes, I ask whether it does not stand on very strong ground, and the least that can be done by any person who wishes to dethrone the proposal from its present position is to show where a substitute is to come from. Taxation *per se* is an evil, and every form of taxation is objectionable in some sense. But taxation is a relative evil, and merely to urge that it is not good is no sufficient argument. After the whole subject has been threshed out by a representative Committee appointed for the purpose, and after this form of taxation has been unanimously recommended, and has had the approval of the Commissioners, is it reasonable for a member of the Council to urge that

it is a bad form of taxation, but that he has nothing better to suggest? Seeing that it is now two years since this Bill was placed before the public, and that neither the Chamber of Commerce nor the Trades' Association have objected to it till within the last few weeks, is it reasonable now to strike out this section without suggesting any substitute? I hope the Council will do nothing to cripple the new Municipality by closing its mouth. Give them the opportunity of making out a case to the Government of India, and I am confident that they will be able to make out such a case that in spite of the present intention of the Government of India, they will be obliged, by the force of justice and reason, in a few years to give permission to raise this tax.

The HON. MR. MOORE said:—I wish to say a few words merely to explain why I support this amendment. The arguments which the hon. mover of the amendment has used have entirely convinced me that this section of the Bill should not be allowed to stand. What I wish, however, specially to say is that a representation was made to me by the Committee of the Chamber of Commerce, as soon as they knew that this question was to be discussed, to the effect that they are very strongly opposed to this tax. The hon. member in charge of the Bill has complained that the Chamber of Commerce have not up to this time said anything against this proposal, but I do not see any reason why they should not do so now. Continual changes are going on in the Bill, and it is impossible for any one to say until an actual debate comes on what will eventually be done. The very question of the separation of the offices of Chairman of the Corporation and Commissioner of Police was believed to have been settled finally, and yet it was re-opened twenty-four hours only before this Council met and discussed it. The Octroi Committee, to which the hon. member has referred, were unanimously of opinion that no form of octroi was to be recommended. The members of the Committee, it ought to be remembered, included members of the Chamber of Commerce, the Trades' Association, and the British Indian Association. I gather that the general view of the whole of the Committee was opposed to an octroi in any form whatever, and in their first recommendation to tax petroleum I read only a kind of compromise, as they thought it necessary to recommend some fresh tax for Municipal wants. The member in charge shakes his head, and I cannot now appeal to the members of that Committee to ascertain their actual views, but whatever they were, the views of the present Chamber of Commerce are very distinct, and they oppose this tax strongly. They represent the views of an influential body, and I hope they will carry due weight when this amendment is put to the vote.

The HON. MR. PRATT said:—I venture to say that I also am commissioned by the Trades' Association to add my opposition to the passing of this section of the Bill. The imposition of a tax on petroleum was considered before the letter of the Government of India had been received. At that time there was no intention, as far as they knew, of imposing an Imperial tax on petroleum, and not much attention was paid to the subject. The Imperial tax on petroleum, we think, is quite enough.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—I think perhaps it may help matters if I explain exactly what the position of the Government of India is in respect to these sections as they stand in the Bill. The Government of India said:—"They involve the affirmation of a principle hitherto opposed to the policy of the Government; but as the clauses are permissive and the previous sanction of the Local Government is required before the power which they confer can be exercised, the Governor-General in Council will not insist on their being withdrawn. It will be understood, however, that the consent of the Local Government to any proposal to impose a municipal tax in any form on petroleum will not be given without the previous sanction of the Governor-General in Council of India." And in addition to that, in the same letter they make their contribution to the maintenance of the police depend on no municipal duty being levied on petroleum as long as it is subject to an Imperial customs duty. For the present, therefore, although we have had a very interesting discussion on the subject, it seems to me rather of an academical than a practical interest. Because it is perfectly clear from the letter of the Government of India that though we may keep our section if we like, the Government of India will not give us permission to make use of it. The question which then arises, is whether it is

worth while to keep the section in the Bill; and although I regret exceedingly to find myself not in accord with such powerful bodies as the Chamber of Commerce and the Trades' Association, still I feel inclined to come to the assistance of the Municipality on this subject, and to explain the reasons why I prefer to keep the section as it stands in the Bill. You have been told what the history of these sections is. How it was a resource unanimously agreed upon by a tolerably strong and representative Committee and accepted by the Government. I do not think, although of course I cannot be sure, that any objection to this section would have been heard of if it had not been that the Government of India had been beforehand with us. They took the wind out of our sails and imposed an Imperial tax on petroleum, and they say that is enough, you must not tax petroleum any more. And no doubt people interested in the trade of petroleum look with some trepidation to an additional tax being thrust upon it, although for local and not for imperial purposes. It has just the same effect upon the trade for whatever purpose the tax may be levied. But whether that be so or not,—whether it be the case, as I suppose, that nobody would ever have heard of any serious objection being taken if it had not been for the imperial tax levied by the Government of India—I want to point out that the Government of India's objection merely applies to the superimposition of this tax over and above their own. If their own tax be taken off—and although I do not say it is likely, I have been reminded that the Government of India has been known to take off taxes—then they will not object to our tax being levied. I think that stands clearly in the letter which I have just read to the Council, and that shows, it seems to me, that there is equally good reason for keeping in these sections in their permissive shape in order that, should that good time ever come, it may be taken advantage of without fresh recourse to legislation. Of course it may be objected, as the hon. mover of the amendment probably will object, that the theory being wrong in principle, the question whether the Government of India thinks fit to levy an imperial tax on petroleum or not makes no difference, and that even if they take off their tax, the municipality ought not to levy a municipal tax upon petroleum. On that point I have listened with great interest to what the hon. member said on the subject of octroi generally, but it seems to me that his argument that it is objectionable in Bengal generally really amounts to this, that octroi duties are objectionable only so far as your towns are not conveniently situated to watch the ingress and egress to such towns, but in towns where you can watch the ingress and egress of goods without having recourse to any very large protective staff, the objection, so far, will be removed. Therefore the objection is not a universal objection of principle, but an objection as far as the cost of levying octroi duties is concerned. And, as the hon. member in charge of the Bill has pointed out, that objection, as applied to the levy of a duty on petroleum introduced into Calcutta for consumption, falls to the ground. For it is quite certain to all who pursued the subject that, so long as the restrictions to which the importation of petroleum is subjected by law, for the purpose of safety to the public, are in force, so long as the existing establishments and regulations are kept up, you do not want that army of peons which otherwise would be necessary for the imposition of a tax on petroleum brought into Calcutta. I think that on that point the argument of the hon. member in charge of the Bill is unanswerable. For my own part, although I think it may not do much good at present to retain these sections in the Bill, and although I do not think that Sir Henry Harrison, notwithstanding his sanguine temperament and the force of his eloquence, will be able to persuade the Government of India that they are wrong and he is right, still I think there is no objection to give him the opportunity he desires.

The HON. MR. MACAULAY said in reply:—With the President's permission, I will say a few words in closing the debate. My hon. friend, Sir Henry Harrison, has said that one of my arguments, or rather one leg of my argument, is an appeal to *vis major*. In fact, however, I used no argument at all in regard to the Government of India's decision. I merely stated the fact, and I think that, from the terms of that decision, there appears little hope of its being reversed. My hon. friend desires to use another *vis*, and to have the means of applying a lever to the Government of India. The question is whether the Council will place such an implement in his hands

There is another point in this part of the hon. gentleman's speech to which I must take serious exception. Sir Henry Harrison has said that the Select Committee had been told that if the octroi sections were accepted, the Government of India would vote the Bill. Now, in the first place, it appears to me to be an unusual and inconvenient course that any words used informally in Select Committee by one member to another should be officially stated to the Council. In the second place, I said nothing of the kind in Select Committee. I distinctly said that I did not speak on any official authority, but only mentioned that one member of the Government of India had said that he thought it likely that that Government would take exception to these sections. I believe that my hon. colleagues on the Select Committee will confirm what I have said. My hon. friend (Babu Kali Nath Mitter) assents. I need therefore say no more on this point.

Now as regards the main question, I regret that I shall have to imitate my hon. friend in his argument. I must, I fear, answer him with a *tu quoque*. My hon. friend said that I avoided the question of petroleum to deal with another question. But my hon. friend has also avoided the real drift of my argument. He has not observed that, though my argument was purposely directed against the general principle of octroi in Bengal, I said that this led from the proposal regarding petroleum. I fully recognize that an octroi may be levied on petroleum without the general objections to the impost. I quite recognize that the minute regulations regarding import and storage and transport offers facilities for it. It would raise the price no doubt, but beyond this I think it is as nearly as possible an ideal octroi. But, I would ask, if on petroleum, why not on salt? Salt is also subject to minute regulations, and certainly, apart from the objections to the levy of municipal taxation concurrently with imperial taxation, it would be as easy to levy an octroi on it as on petroleum. Then, why not on coal? Coal, it is true, is not subject to minute regulations. But it enters the city in bulk by rail, or sometimes by boat, and an octroi could easily be levied on it. What I contend is that if an octroi is admitted on petroleum, it will be extended to other articles. Throw in the stone of octroi, and there will be the ever widening circles of petroleum, then salt, then coal, and so forth.

As regards my hon. friend's argument that because increased revenue is necessary, those who oppose an octroi on petroleum are bound to propose a substitute, this seems to be an argument that should be addressed rather to the Government of India than to the Council. But as a matter of fact, as I shall have occasion to show later on, the amount of which Government is relieving the new Corporation of police charges will actually amount to precisely the figure which has been suggested as the increased income required. This is Rs. 2,80,000 for police and Rs. 75,000 for petroleum. It will be found that the Government relief would amount to at least Rs. 3,55,000. I have only referred to the circumstances of Bengal municipalities, because I thought that that argument was enough to convince the Council apart from the general objections to octroi in India. But even if the circumstances were the same, I think they would be wise to avoid the difficulties which the Bombay Chamber of Commerce has found in Bombay, and Sir John Strachey found in the North-West. It is true that the Government of India has taken exception to the proposal only on the ground that municipal taxation cannot be allowed to be concurrent with Imperial taxation. But as the Government of India has admitted octroi generally in other provinces,—though, as I have shown, with constant attempts to subject it to regulations,—it could not well forbid it in Bengal. This, it appears to me, is a matter for the Bengal Council.

The motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 5.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. H. Pratt.	The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. C. H. Moore.	The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. the Advocate-General.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that the following new sections be inserted after section 100:—

"100A. It shall not be lawful for the Commissioners to apply the rates, taxes, fees, and other income belonging to the Town of Calcutta to the area added to the said town for any of the purposes contemplated by this Act, save and except the sum of Rs. 2,80,000, being the amount which the Local Government has relieved the said town from contributing to the expenses of the police maintained by the said Government.

"100B. The Commissioners shall yearly spend for the area to be added to the Town of Calcutta the whole of the revenue to be derived from the said area, including the sum of Rs. 2,80,000 referred to in the preceding section, the sums which may be raised under the provisions of section ninety-nine of this Act, and any sum which the Local Government may, with the sanction of the Supreme Government, contribute to the Municipal Fund."

He said:—The object of the insertion of the first of these two sections is to prevent any confusion ensuing as to the division of the funds of the present town of Calcutta, for any purpose contemplated by the Act, to the added area. The Amalgamation Committee in their report distinctly pointed out that one of the conditions on which the amalgamation should take place was that there should be no diversion of the funds of the town for the benefit of the amalgamated area. In the concluding portion of paragraph (15) of their report, they say—"It should, in our opinion, be accepted as a definite principle that the scheme of amalgamation is not to involve the town in any heavier charges than the town is now legally liable to bear." And in the Statement of Objects and Reasons appended to the Bill it is said that the Government of India having approved in general terms of the principle that no portion of the revenues and funds belonging to Calcutta should be diverted for any purpose to the added area, it is necessary that a section of this sort should be introduced into the Bill because it is anticipated that the funds which are likely to be placed at the disposal of the new municipality will not be such as to enable it to administer to the wants of the added area in a satisfactory manner. The Amalgamation Committee thought that the revenue, which it would be possible to obtain from such added area, would be Rs. 6,00,000: that was the figure they put down in their report. I think that that was a sanguine estimate. I have since been in consultation with one of the Commissioners who takes an active interest in the affairs of the Suburbs, and from the figures with which he supplied me, the conclusion I have come to is that it will not be possible to obtain more than Rs. 5,00,000 from the added area. But even supposing that my figures are wrong, and that the expectation of the Amalgamation Committee is realized, we have Rs. 6,00,000, from revenues; to that has to be added Rs. 2,80,000, which is the amount of relief the town of Calcutta will obtain from not being required to contribute to the Police Fund, besides Rs. 25,000, the amount of rating to the added area on the same account; and if we add also Rs. 75,000 to be realised from a tax on petroleum, the prospect of realising which is as distant as ever from what has fallen from Your Honour, the whole amount available for expenditure on the added area will come to about Rs 9,50,000. The question is whether that sum would be sufficient to administer the municipal affairs of the added area? I am deliberately of opinion that it will not be sufficient. The first thing to be done will be to construct reservoirs for filtered water, to lay down distribution pipes, and to pay for four million gallons of water which the Suburbs will take from Calcutta. That contribution will amount pretty nearly to Rs. 2,00,000. An estimate has, I understand, been prepared, which shows that the cost of laying down pipes will be somewhere about Rs. 7,00,000; then there will be charges for the distribution of the water, which will be a serious item of expenditure at the very outset. It will of course be necessary, as far as the works for the water-supply and other improvements are concerned, to raise a loan for the purpose; and therefore out of this estimate of Rs. 9,50,000, at least Rs. 1,00,000 will have to be set apart for the payment of interest and for a sinking fund for the loans to be raised for the water-supply, for the construction of latrines (I am not aware that there is any large number of latrines in the added area), for the drainage of the area, and for opening out new roads. If you really wish to improve the added area, the first thing to be done will be to open out new streets: you will not be able to effect any improvement unless you open out new streets. For all these purposes, it will be necessary to set apart at least Rs. 1,00,000 for interest and sinking fund on loans. This is a very moderate

estimate, and there is every prospect of its being exceeded. Then we have Rs. 8,50,000 left. I have prepared a statement showing the different items of expenditure, and it is a very moderate estimate. The annual cost of distributing water, according to Mr. Buckley's estimate, will be Rs. 47,380, and of providing a large main will be Rs. 21,000. At present the scheme is to supply only two million gallons of water, but the Corporation of Calcutta has contracted to give a supply of four million gallons; and if we really want to improve the sanitation of the added area, it will be necessary to give at least four million gallons of water; so that the figures will be doubled, and the amount for this purpose will be Rs. 1,37,684. Then the establishment charges will be Rs. 40,538, maintenance of roads Rs. 3,50,000, conservancy Rs. 34,000, house-service Rs. 2,00,000, charges of collection Rs. 12,000, additional lights Rs. 75,000, watering streets and so on Rs. 50,000: the present contribution to hospitals is Rs. 4,560, cost of vaccination Rs. 3,431, education Rs. 4,000. These items make up a total of Rs. 9,14,832. But this does not take into account expenses incurred for the erection of latrines and for the opening out of drains. If these are done out of capital, perhaps Rs. 1,00,000 will, for a few years, suffice. We have therefore Rs. 9,14,000 against an asset of Rs. 8,50,000. This is a moderate estimate on the basis of the expenditure in the Suburbs at present, increasing it of course to the extent necessary. For my own part, I think that this estimate of Rs. 9,14,000 is not a sufficient estimate, and I would not put down the expenditure at less than Rs. 12,00,000 per annum. I think that is the conclusion also to which the Local Government arrived when this matter was placed before it. After reviewing the report of the Amalgamation Committee, the Local Government pointed out that although the Committee did not in so many words state the amount of expenditure which the municipality would have to incur, it came to the conclusion that the sum which should be provided for was Rs. 6,00,000. Although by the Statement of Objects and Reasons of this Bill, no portion of the funds of the town is to be applied for any of the purposes of the added area, yet in making provision for the additional sum of Rs. 6,00,000, Rs. 2,50,000 of the house-rate was taken into consideration. That is entirely opposed to the scheme of the Amalgamation Committee. The funds of the town are to be applied for the benefit of the town, excepting the amount of relief which the Government is about to give, and yet in the estimate for this additional Rs. 6,00,000, which the Local Government considered would be needed for the improvement of this area, 2½ per cent. house-rate is taken into calculation. That, I submit, is entirely a mistake. Therefore it seems to me absolutely necessary that a section of the sort I propose should be introduced in the Bill to protect the rate-payers of the town of Calcutta. If, with the maximum rates from the added area, it be found impossible to do all that is needed, the responsibility will not rest with the Commissioners of Calcutta, but with the Government, and I wish that to be stated in the Bill as clearly and definitely as possible. Now it is proverbial that the added area is in an extremely insanitary condition, and this has been brought about not by the neglect of a few years, but of ages. This area is now to be placed under the administration of the town which has done a great deal to improve its sanitation, but has not yet done all that is necessary. Therefore it cannot be said that the area to be made over to the town is precisely in the same condition as the town, and on these grounds I submit that care should be taken to make it as clear as possible that no portion of the funds of the town will be diverted for any of the purposes of the added area. Under these circumstances, I move that section 100A be added to the Bill, but I have no objection to any improvement in the drafting of the section which may appear necessary to the learned Secretary of the Legislative Department.

If section 100A is accepted by the Council, it will be necessary to insert also section 100B, and I put it on precisely the same footing. If those sections are adopted, I do not propose to raise a discussion by moving my next amendment, viz., that the following section be inserted:—

"The Local Government shall contribute to the Municipal Fund the sum of two lakhs of rupees per annum, to be devoted to the improvement of the area added to the town of Calcutta."

My object is simply to put on record that if the funds available are insufficient for the proper municipal administration of the added area, the responsibility will not rest with the Commissioners.

His Honour THE PRESIDENT said:—I think it will help somewhat to the decision of this section if I put the Council in possession of the gist of the correspondence with the Government of India on the subject of this contribution. This Bill has been before the Council about two years. When it was introduced by my predecessor Sir Rivers Thompson, it was introduced on the assumption, as you will see from the Statement of Objects and Reasons, that the Government of India are prepared to take over the entire charge of the contribution for the police, a charge which was stated at the time to be Rs. 3,00,000. That runs all through the correspondence, and when I took up the subject it had already very far advanced, so far in fact that when the Select Committee submitted its report, it did so on the assumption that this contribution of three lakhs had been settled. It was only during my absence in Chota Nagpore that I learned that the Government of India were of opinion that this assumption was without any sufficient foundation. On going into the official papers on record, I am bound to say that the Government of India had always carefully guarded themselves from consenting in so many words to undertake this entire charge, although they had always accepted the principle of bearing a portion of the charge. As soon as I returned and found this situation of affairs, I took immediate measures to get the matter definitely considered and settled. The result of the further consideration on the part of the Government of India was that the Imperial revenues will contribute Rs. 2,00,000 towards the police charges of the municipality. No more. It then became a question for me to consider what was to be done—whether to ask you to go on with the Bill and hand over the added area to the municipality with diminished means to meet the charge, or whether to abandon it altogether, or to await the result of our deliberations as to whether the Provincial revenues are going to bear the burden. Last year I do not think the Provincial revenues could have done it; but fortunately by dint of hardheartedness on the part of the hon. the financial member on the left (Mr. Macaulay) we have accumulated sufficient to give an extra contribution from the Provincial funds. As to this extra contribution which will be given from the Provincial funds, my hon. friend will explain further what the total burden of our contribution will be. But it includes the police charges which we have already relieved the Suburbs of, and part of which have accumulated from year to year with a view to furnish a water-supply to the Suburbs, a statement which the hon. member omitted to mention. With reference to the amendment now before the Council, I presume the hon. member in charge of the Bill will say how far he thinks it is possible to work it. It seems to me it will involve an almost impossible practical difficulty in working. I only wish to put the Council in possession of such information as I can as to how Rs. 3,00,000 are to be given, and to assure the Council that, although the Provincial revenues will gladly give the additional Rs. 1,00,000, it is quite impossible to give more. I may mention that I do not think I can allow the additional provision proposed by the hon. mover of the amendment, as it is contrary to the section in the Indian Councils' Act, which allows no measure affecting the public revenues or any charge which would be imposed on such revenues, to be put without the previous leave of the Government.

There is one other point it is well I should mention now, as the proposed section 100B gives me a better opportunity of doing so than at any other time. The Government of India, in agreeing to give Rs. 2,00,000, saddled it with two conditions, one of which you have already heard, namely, that we shall not put a tax on petroleum while the Government of India taxes it, and then that we shall give some guarantee that the sum so contributed in lieu of the cost of the Calcutta Police will be devoted to expenditure on works of sanitation, and will not eventually be diverted from such purpose and be applied to a reduction of such taxation. It is just such a guarantee which section 100B, moved by my hon. friend, proposes to give. I have been in consultation with my hon. friend, the member in charge of the Bill, on the subject, and he thinks as I do, that this guarantee ought to be given, and he will propose to put it in the Bill as clause No. (7) at the end of section 37 in a slightly different form, viz., "devote to the improvement of the area newly added to Calcutta by this Act not less than Rs. 3,00,000 annually from the receipts of the revenue funds described in sections 102, 103, and 105 of this Act; provided that the instalments of interest and reserve fund payable on any capital sum expended under clauses (3), (4)

and (5) of this section, for the improvement of that area, shall be taken as part of the Rs. 3,00,000." It will probably be desirable that the Council should see this section and have an opportunity of considering it. Therefore my hon. friend will not ask you to vote upon it now. But in case you do not accept section 100B, or in case it is withdrawn, the provision to which I have referred will be brought forward after the Council have had an opportunity of considering it.

The HON. MR. MACAULAY said:—The precise figure in regard to the Calcutta Police charges of which the municipality will be relieved has been stated to be Rs. 2,80,000. I think that figure is taken from the figures of a year before additions were made on account of the mounted police. As a matter of fact in the current year the contribution payable by the Government is Rs. 1,02,720, and consequently the amount payable by the municipality is Rs. 3,08,158. In addition to that there is now the charge on account of the Suburbs, *viz.*, Rs. 38,000. And I may mention that previously in 1883, Sir Rivers Thompson relieved the municipality of an equal sum of Rs. 38,000 on condition of its being devoted to the water-supply and other works of sanitation. The total sum is Rs. 3,84,000 for the whole of Calcutta and the Suburbs. But as the portion of the Suburbs, which will not be included in the Calcutta Municipality, is, if I recollect rightly, in the proportion of 12 to 26, the amount of which the Government will relieve the area to be included in the Calcutta Municipality will be about Rs. 3,55,000 a year. In addition to that I may mention that this Bill will involve a relief to the Howrah Municipality of Rs. 11,000, which will be made available for expenditure on works of water-supply and sanitation.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I would ask whether, after the statement which Your Honour has made, it will not be better to reserve the discussion till the section which you read out is proposed. It nearly covers the same ground, and the objections are not objections in principle, but the section prescribes a course which in practice it will be difficult to follow. It will be better if the hon. member sees the section proposed to be introduced, and then moves any amendment he thinks necessary to effect the further purposes which his section is intended to embrace. He wishes to make it compulsory by law for the Commissioners to spend on the added area no larger sum from the revenues of the town than the sum of which they are to be relieved from payment on account of the police charges. I think the practical difficulty of making that a legal obligation is so great that I could not undertake to support such a provision. The hon. member himself perceived the objection when he said that it was the principle he wished the Council to adopt, and that he was open to an alteration in the wording of the section. It seems to me that the objects it is intended to accomplish are beyond the possibility of being expressed in the imperative manner in which he desires to do so. I wish to know if the hon. member will accept the suggestion I have made.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said:—If there is any chance to coming to an agreement on this point, I am quite willing to postpone the discussion on this matter. But the section which Your Honour has read out makes the Commissioners responsible for devoting a particular sum of money for the improvement of the added area. There it stops. It does not go further. It takes the restriction from my section, puts it in the Bill, and excludes all the privileges. I do not consider that a right course to adopt. If I am to be met on fair terms, if we can come to a compromise on this point, surely the English language will enable us to enunciate a principle which is just, and I do not think there will be any difficulty. Therefore, on that footing, I am ready to meet my hon. friend for the purpose of seeing whether we can come to a compromise.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—I think the objects of the two sections are really incompatible. The object of the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter is, that you should spend nothing on the new area which should come out of the pockets of the rate-payers residing in the old area. He says, if you will undertake to do that, we will undertake to give a guarantee that the police contribution shall be spent in that way and in no other. Speaking for myself, I think that to put in the Bill a section making it illegal for the Municipality to spend on the objects of the new area any portion of the funds

raised in the old area will make the whole thing unworkable. The Commissioners will have to keep separate accounts, and when you come to distribute the establishments, it will be almost impossible to make the distinction. And I may add that I think the Municipality is strong enough to distribute the funds in such a way as not to give the new area any advantage over the old. I think it will be advisable, as the hon. member has said, that we should leave the section as it stands.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said:—What Your Honour has recorded will be quite sufficient for my purpose. I am quite willing that the matter should stand over now. I understand from Your Honour now, that you affirm the principle that no portion of the funds of the town shall be applied to the improvement of the added area.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—What I distinctly refused to affirm is any legal restriction enforcing that principle.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE said:—I wish to make one observation in the interests of the newly-added suburban area. It will be most unfair to it to tie up the hands of the new Municipality in this way. The amalgamation scheme has been accepted for the sole purpose of enabling the municipal improvement of the Suburbs to be undertaken, which could not be done if the Suburban Municipality had been left unaided by itself. If the proposed section is allowed to stand, there would really be no amalgamation at all; at best there would be federation of the two Municipalities. When the strong and the weak go in partnership, the strong must assist the weak; and if the hon. mover of the amendment is not agreeable to that, he should oppose the amalgamation altogether. With regard to the remark of my hon. friend, that the present insanitary condition of the Suburbs is the result of the neglect for years past, it should be remembered that it is really due not to any neglect of the Municipality, but to the want of funds. His own argument went to show that the insanitary condition of the Suburbs was due to want of funds and not to the want of proper supervision.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I need not say more than that, as Your Honour remarked, the proposal of the hon. member appears to me to be unworkable. Every salary paid to the Municipal officers and every payment made to the Municipality will have to be divided. My idea is that the town will not want any safeguard, as with a little care nothing will be more easy than for them to protect themselves. The body which will really want protection will be the Suburbs; and as they will be brought in from outside and engrafted on to a system in full working, it will be necessary that their representatives should look closely to see that they are getting their share.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said:—I do not possess the experience which the hon. member in charge of the Bill does, but to my mind it seems that there cannot be any difficulty in carrying out the sections I have proposed. Moneys are now being collected and duties totally distinct are being performed yet under the same authority. The water-rate, the lighting-rate, and the general rate are separate funds; yet there is no difficulty in working, and why should there be any further difficulty in working on the lines I have suggested. That portion of the objection I think is more imaginary than real. As to the remark that the Town Commissioners will be a stronger body, I do not see how that has anything to do with it. To me it seems possible that the Town Commissioners may wish to devote a portion of the funds of the Town for the benefit of the Suburbs. In the Statement of Objects and Reasons accompanying the Bill, the hon. member said that "care has been taken to protect the rate-payers of the Town against loss owing to the diversion of these rates and taxes to the benefit of the new area to be added to Calcutta." That being stated in the Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill, I cannot understand why there should be any opposition to inserting a section in the Bill affirming that principle.

The motions were then severally put and negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER withdrew the amendment of which he had given notice, that the following section be inserted after section 100:—

"100A. The Local Government shall contribute to the Municipal Fund the sum of two lakhs of rupees per annum to be devoted to the improvement of the area added to the town of Calcutta."

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that clause (*d*) of section 101 be omitted.

He said:—This refers to what is called the Halalkhor rate, and is the same as the fees levied under the present Act for removing night-soil. My objection to this being put under the head of rates is one of principle. Fees for service performed cannot be made the object of a rate. The basis of a rate is rent; unless there is rent there cannot be a rate. If that objection fails, there is the further objection that this rate will have to be paid by three classes of persons—persons who have got their water-closets unconnected, persons who have them connected, and persons who have no water-closets at all. It may seem a strange statement to make that there are persons in the town who have no water-closets at all, but in point of fact it is so. This is principally to be found in places of business where different rooms of a house are assessed separately for the purposes of the assessment of the Trades and Professions Tax, and if this clause of section 101 is passed, they will have to pay a rate of two per cent. At present such persons do not pay any night-soil fees; no service is performed, and justly they ought not to be called upon to pay. Then again connected houses do not pay, but it has been very properly pointed out that the drainage works have been constructed at considerable expense to carry away the sewage of the town, and it is only fair that connected houses should make some contribution towards the maintenance of the sewers. But that unconnected houses should pay at the same rate as connected houses is, I think, far from right. The owners of connected houses have undergone very large expenditure to have their houses connected, and therefore they get the benefit of the sewers, and though it will be just to make them pay something for the maintenance of the sewers, to make them pay in the same way as unconnected houses seems unreasonable. I cannot understand on what principle persons who have never hitherto paid night-soil fees, and for whom no service is performed, should have to pay simply for the convenience of the Corporation. The argument for the imposition of a rate is simply this, that there will be a saving of trouble and expense in preparing bills for house service, and for collecting the fees due. No doubt there is considerable force in that argument, but I do not for a moment admit that that inconvenience justifies the adoption of a proposal which will make persons liable for payment who have not now to pay anything. This liability will not be restricted to a few persons, but will fall on large numbers who are not now liable to pay anything. If this amendment is carried, I shall propose two sections to enable the Commissioners to levy fees from connected as well as unconnected houses, and so far as the revenue is concerned, the Corporation will not lose anything. It will only have the effect of applying a differential rate. To impose the same rate upon connected and unconnected houses will be totally unfair to the owners and occupiers of unconnected houses. It is also an objection that a large number of persons who have not to pay now will have to pay though no service is performed for their benefit.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—If this amendment is accepted by the Council the results will be very embarrasing. This section is one of corner stones on which the whole scheme of taxation rests. I do not know what the views of other hon. members are; whether they are to any large extent in favour of the amendment. Therefore I shall have to set forth fully all the reasons why this section should be retained as it stands. This is essentially a part of the scheme for the consolidation of the rates, and if it is not accepted the difficulty will be great. The principle of it is that you may collect all the rates by one and the same bill and by one and the same establishment, and then fairly divide them between owners and occupiers. But the amendment will destroy both these arrangements; it will prevent one collection and a fair and equal division between owners and occupiers. At present, as pointed out by the Select Committee in their report, by the Trades' Association and by the Chamber of Commerce, the incidence of taxation is 9¼ per cent. upon owners and 7¾ upon occupiers, if you leave this occupiers' cess out of consideration. Fees for house service are entirely paid by occupiers; leaving them out, the proportion is as I have stated. But if you turn the house service fees into a rate, you have a maximum of 10½ per cent. upon occupiers and the same upon

owners, and then the fairness of an equal division comes in. Besides this, very great importance must be attached to a diminution of the expense and vexation caused by the separate collection of fees of this kind. In all Municipal establishments, especially in England, the first idea which naturally finds favour is to adjust the payment of the burden of taxation to each particular case. In this way, as one measure after another was introduced for local taxation, it was adjusted in a different manner, and the result has been that with the legitimate object of adjusting taxation fairly, local taxation in England has reached a state of perfect chaos, and although we have not yet reached a similar state, the difficulty is very great indeed, and it arises from our endeavour to recover payment for house service only from houses in which house service is performed. Where you have 30 houses and 10 privies, it is very difficult to find out who ought to pay and who ought not. There is now not a Municipal discussion on a quarterly report in which the failure to work the cess successfully does not form the first and chief topic of comment. At least 10 per cent. of the bills are returned unrealised, on the ground that the persons who are required to pay are not liable. Local enquiries are made and lead to reports which are not accepted, and the whole subject gives more vexation and more trouble than any other matter connected with the administration of the Municipality. On the other hand, the trouble of making out the bills is extreme. The scale varies with every form of rent. In the suburbs there are 23 scales; in Calcutta there are 20, according to the rating of the house. Then even in the matter of exemptions it is extremely invidious. The exemptions in the Suburbs are tanks, waste land, gardens, and shops without privies. Why should shops having no privies be exempted? The persons who occupy the shops are subject to the ordinary laws of nature; and as a matter of fact the only principle is this, that the town is for human beings and the Municipality has to undertake the task of removing the sewage for all, whether by means of drainage for connected houses, house service for unconnected houses, or public latrines where there are no privies at all. The one thing above all others to which attention is necessary is to make the municipal system work smoothly. In Mr. Goschen's Committee in 1871, this was the one point upon which they were most unanimous, and they recommended one consolidated rate. I have by me a handbook on local taxation by Wright and Hobhouse, and they write:—"There are some alterations in the system of local taxation in which all parties are agreed; one of which is the consolidation of the rates." That is now an accepted principle. Again, it is not possible in Municipal administration to apply generally the principle of taxing according to benefits. See how you break through that principle in the matter of the equal payment of water-rates. Do large business houses, the Port Commissioners, the Mint, the High Court, get anything like the amount of water they pay for? You ought not on that principle to make temporary residents in the town pay anything on account that part of the municipal income which is levied for the repayment of debt. Permanent residents of course benefit by the construction of permanent works; temporary residents derive much less benefit from them. If you once allow yourself to be drawn into that argument and insist on separate collections and collections according to some ideal of the extent to which persons are benefited, you will land yourself in unmistakable difficulties and inconsistencies. When the present system was introduced the Commissioners appointed a Committee to consider the question of the house service fees, and my hon. friend, the mover of this amendment, was a member of that Committee. I am not going to twit him with changing his mind, but I may appeal to his former judgment on the subject. Out of 13 members of the Committee all but three reported that it would be better to have a rate in preference to a system of fees, and my hon. friend himself was one of the majority. I say that this is a section which cannot be struck out without upsetting the whole arrangement of the Bill. It will remove from the poor a burden which they now in some cases pay to the possible point of 400 per cent. Therefore you see how very hardly the present system presses on the holders of small tenements, and it will be a very great relief to them if the Council accept the provision in the Bill which will have the effect of converting the house-service fees into a rate.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—As the hon. member in charge of the Bill has referred to my opinion on this point on a previous occasion, I will meet him on his own ground and point out that what he now considers the most fundamental part of the Bill on which everything depends, was not contained in the Bill as submitted by him to the Council after having been agreed to by the Select Committee. There was no Halalkhor rate at all in that Bill, although the consolidated rate was to be found in it. The consolidation of the rates was adopted at my suggestion, but at that time there was no idea of introducing a Halalkhor rate. That idea dawned on the mind of my hon. friend after the Bill had been remitted to the Select Committee for various consideration of details. It was only when the Bill was being reconsidered on points of detail that this idea dawned on his mind. If it is such a fundamental principle, why did not my hon. friend propose it on the first reference of the Bill to a Select Committee? It passed the Select Committee and was laid before the Council without any such provision. There is one circumstance connected with my change of opinion to which my hon. friend refers, and it is this, that although there were 13 members on the Committee, and I was one of those who were in favour of a rate instead of levying fees, yet three of the most experienced Commissioners were against their imposition. I had then recently joined the Municipality, and opinions formed then were subject to change by the light of experience. I came across a very curious case where the owner of a very large tank called the Kurballah tank was called upon to pay a bill for night-soil service in respect of the tank, but when the matter came before the Commissioners, it was unanimously agreed that no fee could be charged unless the service was performed. The lighting-rate was justifiable because the value of houses enhanced owing to the lighting of streets. In the same way water-rate was paid because the supply of filtered water increased the value of property in the town. It is very remarkable that the very law under which the water-rate is levied makes a distinction in the rate levied in different localities. When the water-rate is levied at a maximum, houses situated in streets where pipes are not laid have to pay one per cent. less than houses on streets having water: in the one case the rate would be five per cent. and in the other six. Night-soil fees cannot come under the definition of a rate; it is only by a forced construction that you can impose a rate for house service. The rates at present payable by owners and occupiers are 7¾ and 9¼ per cent. respectively. If the past literature on the subject is studied, it will be obvious under what circumstances the owners of house property were made to contribute one-fourth of the water-rate. The question was decided by the casting vote of the President. Perhaps it is right that they should pay something, but one-fourth was an arbitrary proportion fixed by the Legislature. Under these circumstances, I submit it is only fair to a large number of persons in whose houses no service is performed that they should be relieved from paying this charge for house service. My hon. friend said that all persons must have their places of convenience. He forgets that persons who have shops have also houses to live in for which they pay fees for house service. Therefore I do not see how that argument advances my hon. friend's argument. I again submit that an inequitable rate should not be levied merely for the sake of the convenience of collection.

The motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that in clause (*d*) of section 103 for the words "above purposes" the words "specified in clause (*e*)" be substituted.

He said:—This is a mere verbal amendment. The purposes of clauses (*a*) and (*b*) do not involve any expenditure, and I think the alteration in wording will be an improvement. It was suggested to me by the Secretary.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that section 117 be omitted.

He said:—Persons should not be made to pay for what they are not liable. Hut-owners are properly liable to pay this rate; but by this Bill the owners of the land on which the huts stand will be made to pay. This again is a question of convenience. Suppose the landholder is not able to realise the rate? Suppose the tenant absconds? The rates have to be paid in advance, while rents are paid to the landholder in arrear, and he cannot realise it in

advance. I think this provision is most arbitrary, and I cannot perceive any principle of justice in it. Precisely the same thing was attempted to be done on the last occasion. The late Hon. Kristo Das Pal took exception to it. The matter came up for discussion, and the hon. and learned Advocate-General then said:—"It appeared to him that the objections of the hon. mover of the amendment were really unanswerable. He had put it on the ground of principle, that the person to whom the hut belonged should be the person chargeable with the tax. The hon. member in charge of the Bill said that such a procedure would produce confusion. The Advocate-General did not think the Council should legislate simply for facilitating the collection of taxes, but they were also to see that the party from whom the tax came was the party from whom it should come." With that I will leave the matter in the hands of the Council; it is not possible to adduce stronger arguments. The result was that the amendment of the late Hon. Kristo Das Pal was carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I cannot accept this amendment, although I am aware that it had on a previous occasion the support of the learned Advocate-General. It is no new principle. It was in the Act of 1863 and in our present Act, but in an optional form, and it has not been acted upon, and therefore for some years we have collected from the smallest huts in the town. But that is not the principle elsewhere. Under the English law all the rates are paid by occupiers, so that you have much greater force of precedent. Nevertheless, in the case of small tenements, that rule is broken through. In the first instance it was done in the form of an appeal to the owners to compound for their tenants; but since the Act of 1869 was passed, the local authorities have the power of forcing the owners to compound, and an abatement of 15 per cent. is allowed from the amount of the rent for the cost of collection. It has been found necessary to make the owner compound. At present the tax gatherers have to go to all the smallest and poorest hut-owners to collect the rate, and afterwards the agency of the Warrant Department recovers the amount in addition to warrant fees. If any objection is taken, it ought to be to the amount allowed for collection, which is one-eighth of the total demand; and as a portion is payable by the landholder, it comes to about one-sixth of what he has to pay for others. It is a fair allowance, and it does not throw upon him any additional expense, because he will collect the rate by the same agency by which he collects his rent. The whole of the subordinate agency of the Municipality will be kept away from the doors of the poorest inhabitants, and the amount of saving in time and establishment, but above all the saving in vexation, harassment, and even worse than that, which must necessarily result from poor ignorant people being brought face to face with the tax-collectors, will be considerable. I consider this provision to be fair, it is fully covered by English precedent, and is expedient in an eminent degree in the interests both of the poor and of the Municipality itself.

The HON. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said:—I wish to explain that the precedent which the hon. member in charge of the Bill relies upon does not apply in this case. In England all house property belongs to the landlord: in this country huts belong to the tenants. Everything put upon land in England belongs to the landlord: here huts belong to the tenant. And therefore, I submit, it is unfair to make the landholder pay for property of which he is not the owner.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—In this country the tenant is allowed to remove his hut: in England the landlord gets the benefit of permanent fixtures. My hon. friend, the member in charge of the Bill, has given a glowing picture of the harassment to which poor hut-owners are subjected by the Municipal agency; but does not he foresee the harassment to which they will be subjected by the sircars and durwans of the landholders? The landlords will have to pay the rate even when the hut-owner absconds. My hon. friend has not attempted to meet my argument that if the tenant absconds, how is the landholder to recover the money which he has paid? Moreover, the harassment and annoyance to which the hut-owner is subject will be nothing less because the agency is changed.

The motion being put the Council divided :—

Ayes 5.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
The Hon. the Advocate-General.	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, for the first paragraph of section 117, the following be substituted :—

"The entire consolidated rate imposed upon bustee land and the huts built thereon shall, after deducting therefrom a sum equal to one-eighth of such rates, be paid by the owner of such land. The sum deducted shall be retained by the owner of the land as a set-off against the expenses which may be incurred in collecting the portion of the rate recoverable from the occupiers of the land, or the owners or occupiers of huts built thereon, under the provisions of the next succeeding section, and as a commutation of all refunds in respect of huts which are vacant, or which may be removed or destroyed during the continuance of the period for which the rate is imposed."

He said :—It is not intended to make any alteration in substance in this section, but it was considered by the learned Secretary to be an improvement in the wording.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, in line 1 of section 118, for the words "in such cases" the words "whenever a rate is imposed on bustee lands" be substituted.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, in line 7 of section 120, for the words "duly entered" the words "registered provisionally" be substituted.

He said :—This section is a reproduction of section 103A of the present amending Act, with alterations which are a little more than verbal. If the section had been acted upon, it might have led to a very serious abuse. If a person's name is registered as owner, it may assist him very much in borrowing money on that property. Now that we have a system of provisional registration, it is better to say that it shall be *provisionally registered* so as to be subject to all the safeguards of that form of registration.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, for the first paragraph of section 122, the following be substituted :—

"For the purpose of assessment under this Act, the annual value of land and the annual value of any house shall be the gross annual rent at which such land or house might reasonably be expected to let from year to year, less, in the case of a house, an allowance of ten per cent. for the cost of repairs, and for all other expenses necessary to maintain the house in a state to command such gross rent."

He said :—The object of this amendment is to leave out that portion of the section in the Bill which provides a special mode of valuation for residential and other houses not intended for letting purposes, and to fix one general mode of valuation for all lands and houses. That is the law at present, and is the only method which can be supported on principle; and so far as I can discover from the report of the Select Committee, no case has been made out for the proposed alteration. The only grounds upon which the Select Committee propose to introduce the change are two, namely, difficulty of assessment under the present law, and its inequitableness. With regard to the first ground of objection, I think the difficulty is not peculiar to Calcutta. Similar difficulties arise in England in similar cases as Sir Richard Garth points out in the case of *Nundo Lal Bose* v. *The Corporation of Calcutta* (see I. L. R. 11 Calc. p. 281). I may further point out that the mode of assessment proposed to be substituted in this Bill also involves a difficulty, namely, that of ascertaining the amount of deduction for deterioration, which is certainly not less, and may often be greater, than the difficulty which is sought to be avoided. In the second place let us see how far the other objection is well grounded. It is said that if we are to assess houses built for purposes of residence on their expected letting value, the assessment may be far

below what it ought to be. But on what principle? The majority of the Select Committee say on this principle, that we should adopt 5 per cent. on the cost price as the letting value. Nobody denies that that will give a valuation considerably above the expected letting value. But to infer thence that the existing assessment is too low is to beg the whole question. If 5 per cent. on the cost price is the proper basis of assessment, then no doubt anything less than that would be unjustly low. But is there anything in reason which supports that basis? The report of the Select Committee refers to the great English political economist Mill, and points out that the cost price of a house may be fairly adopted as the basis of taxation, because it indicates the extent of the owner's means, and therefore it fairly indicates his capability of paying the tax. With reference to that argument, I would beg to point out that that is not the case in this country, and for a very simple reason. We all know that many a man builds a large house to live in because he has a large family consisting of his own children and those of his father and grandfather, and secondly, because there is a prevailing sentiment that one ought to have a house which he can call his own to live in; and therefore to tax a person on the basis of the capital he has invested in building the house will, in this country, be not taxing him according to his means, but taxing him on account of his feeling and sentiment. Another point I will draw attention to. In the report of the Select Committee an English decision is referred to:—

"In the case of such houses in England as are not built to let to tenants from year to year, the rule has been judicially declared to be that 'a hypothetical tenant must be assumed,' and the terms of such tenancy are not difficult to be conceived; the occupying tenant must be assumed to pay *adequate remuneration to a contractor for land and fixed capital vested therein*, and the local rateable value would be such a sum as would pay the rent of the land and profit on the fixed capital therein.'"

I have not been able to find this case in the reports, but the hon. member in charge of the Bill has handed me the book from which he made the quotation, and I find that the case is not the case of a residential house but of a manufactory. In the case of a residential house, which is also referred to in that book, the basis of assessment is said to be a percentage not on the capital invested, but on the market value which the property will fetch. That one can understand, but that is very different from the provision in the Bill. A man may build a house which suits his convenience more than the convenience of another man, and he may invest more money in building it than another man. But if he sells the house, what he would get would not be the cost price, or the cost price less a deduction for deterioration, but it will be something which would be quite different from and much less than the sum of money invested in building the house. So that the standard on which the section is based is quite an arbitrary standard, and therefore I submit it ought not to be allowed to stand. If this amendment does not commend itself to the Council, I propose as an alternative the substitution of "4" for "5" in line 14 of section 122, the object of which is to bring the valuation nearer to the proper standard.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—I am very much disposed to agree with the concluding remarks of the hon. member. I would consider it a considerable improvement if "market value" is substituted for "cost price." So far, if the hon. member will agree to that, I shall be very glad to make the alteration.

The Hon. Mr. Allen said:—The principle of this section has been attacked as if it was perfectly unknown, but already it is the law in all mofussil municipalities that where property or houses have been erected not for purposes of letting, a certain percentage should be struck on the cost price as correctly as can be ascertained. It was found necessary to introduce this principle, because while mills and structures of that character were over-assessed, houses in which Municipal Commissioners and their friends resided were as much under-assessed. From the report of the Chairman of the Corporation it would appear that something of the same kind is not unknown in Calcutta, and that on houses occupied in the northern part of the town, hitherto the average assessable value has been about [illegible] per cent. or less of the cost of construction; while in regard to all houses in the southern part of the town which are built for letting purposes, there is not a house which is let for less than [illegible] or 7 per cent. on the cost, and the full rent is taken as assessable value of all such. I have

heard of houses being built with money borrowed at 7 per cent., and the Hon. Mr. Irving took the trouble to ascertain from a partner of Messrs. Mackintosh, Burn and Company, who reported that it is a thing unknown in Calcutta to expect less than 6 per cent. as a return for the money invested in house property. This being the case, while the southern part of Calcutta is assessed at the full rent, that is 6 or 7 per cent. on the outlay, a totally different principle of assessment is in force for the northern part of the town. If the amendment now proposed is carried, the only way to adjust the incidence of taxation between the north and south of the town will be by deducting one-third of the rent paid in the southern portion and taking two-thirds as the assessable value. It will to that extent be equitable. But possibly the total receipts of taxation would fall so far short that a higher rate would have to be struck. The market value of a house is supposed to be a proper indication of the value rather than the cost of construction. What is the market value of that for which there is no market? The first difficulty is that the houses in the northern portion of the town are not built for sale, and they are not in the market. Market value implies that somebody should be willing to sell, and that more than one person should be willing to buy. The hon. mover of amendment talks about a man building a house to suit his own taste which differs so much from the taste of everybody else that he sinks a greater sum of money in the construction than any other person would be willing to give. If he is a poor man, the probability is that he will not sink money in that way. It is a novelty to hear that natives of this country are willing to accept 4 per cent. on money in house property. In other matters even 6 per cent. will not suit them. If a man does so sink money, the money sunk represents his stake or interest within the municipality, and it is precisely on the stake each member so has that municipal tax is properly levied. The average rate they expect for their money is far beyond what Europeans expect; far above 6 per cent. The only way to effect an equitable assessment is either to deduct 33 per cent. of the rent of houses in the southern part of the town, or to take a percentage on the cost price where houses are built for the purpose of residence and not for the purpose of letting.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved that, for section 122, the following be substituted:—

"The annual value of any house or land for the purposes of assessment shall—

(a) in cases where the gross annual rent at which such house or land might reasonably be expected to let from year to year can be ascertained, be such gross annual rent, except that, in case of a house, an allowance of ten per cent. shall be made for the cost of repairs and for all other expenses necessary to maintain such house in a state to command such gross rent;

(b) in cases where such gross annual rent cannot be ascertained, be four per cent. on the sum obtained by adding the estimated cost of building, less a reasonable amount to be deducted on account of depreciation (if any) to the estimated value of the land valued with the house as part of the same premises:

Provided that in making the assessment under clause (b) the estimated value of ornamental works in any house or building shall be excluded; and provided further that no assessment under the said clause shall be valid unless sanctioned by the Commissioners in meeting."

He said:—There are a few houses in Calcutta in regard to which perhaps it may be difficult to obtain the letting value. To meet these few exceptional cases I propose to frame the section in this manner. In cases where the lettable value can be ascertained, the assessment should be the rent less a certain deduction for repairs; in cases where the lettable value cannot be ascertained, it would be a percentage on the cost price. The Select Committee in their report refer to the report made by the Committee of which Mr. Goschen was the Chairman. There it is pointed out that—

"When it appears to the assessing authority that for special reasons a building cannot be fairly valued according to the annual rent which a tenant might reasonably be expected to pay for it, it shall be valued in the following manner:—

"The gross value of any such building shall be a sum equal to 4 *per cent.* on the capital sum which a purchaser might justly be expected to give for such a building in its actual state and existing mode of occupation."

Therefore, as far as this report is concerned, it clearly points out the distinction. In cases where the lettable value cannot for any special reason be ascertained, then we must take a percentage on the market value. I wish to adopt that principle, and have therefore framed the section in the manner in which I have done. Objection is taken to the amendment of

my hon. friend on the ground that in the mofussil a percentage on the value is allowed by law. But my hon. friend forgets that the value of land in the mofussil is very different from Calcutta. Here you have to pay large sums of money to purchase land. A cottah of land has been known to sell for Rs. 5,000. In the mofussil in the best of position it will perhaps be Rs. 50. Therefore the mode of valuation allowed in the mofussil does not justify it being introduced into Calcutta. It was said by the hon. member opposite (Mr. Allen) that a person who has money to spend after his house should not grumble to pay Municipal taxation. Take the case of a person who has embellished his house with guilded corners and ornamental works, would it be just because he has spent money in that way to take the annual value as a percentage on the cost price? To my mind such a proposal should not be entertained for a moment. Rent is the basis of rating; before you can tax property, that property must be capable of producing rent. It has been pointed out that there are some cases in which it is not possible to fix the rent of a house: in those cases perhaps an exception is needed. The Select Committee referred to certain observations of Mr. Mill, but those observations are inapplicable to Calcutta, because the rate he speaks of is paid by the occupier and not by the owner. It shows that the rent which a man is able to pay for a house to live in, is a fair guide to go upon; but it is different when the rate is to be paid by the landlord. A landholder sinks his money with the view of getting a fair return, and surely the rent is to be taken into consideration. The hon. member in charge of the Bill will correct me in what I now say I am mistaken. When this question was considered for the first time in Select Committee, he referred to those exceptional cases showing that justice was not done because of this hard-and-fast rule of ascertaining the lettable value, and on that the section was framed as it stood in the last Bill. But when the question came before the Select Committee on the second occasion I understood the hon. member to say that in the majority of cases, in the case of almost all residential houses, the assessment should be based on a percentage of the cost. While I agree that there are some exceptional cases which ought as far as possible to be dealt with on that principle, I think the proposal to assess all residential houses at 5 per cent. on the cost price would press unduly upon owners. In the first place who is to decide the market value of the property? The assessor fixes one value; the owner puts it at a different figure. From the amendment to be moved by the hon. member in charge he seems to wish that there should be no appeal from the decision of the Commissioners. I myself am not in favour of allowing an appeal to the Presidency Small Cause Court. The Judges of that Court not having to decide matters relating to land have no experience as to the value of real property, and therefore they will find extreme difficulty in determining the market value. There will besides be the further disadvantage and inconvenience of the parties having to dance attendance for perhaps six months before a case is decided. I believe I am perfectly correct in saying that although recourse is now allowed to the Small Cause Court by way of appeal from the assessment of the assessor, there has hardly been a single appeal to that tribunal. People avail themselves largely of the right of appeal to the Commissioners, but they do not resort to the Small Cause Court. What is the reason for that preference of one tribunal to another? It is this, because in the one case the Judges are themselves mostly land-owners and are fair judges of what the assessment should be, and in the other there is no such experience, and moreover there is the harassment and annoyance of a case hanging on for months. I admit that the amendment of the hon. member in charge is an improvement on the section in the Bill, but not to the extent desirable. This is a question on which the rate-payers of the town are very much interested, and I hope therefore that on this and all other matters of importance due consideration will be given. The British Indian Association is composed of men of property in Calcutta, and they have pointed out that it is only in exceptional cases that the assessment should be based on the value, but that in such cases it should not exceed four per cent. My hon. friend the last speaker believed that the natives of Calcutta would not invest money at 4 per cent. I think he is labouring under some misapprehension on that point. A very large proportion of the Government securities is held by the natives of Calcutta, and that is a strong argument that they are satisfied with that investment. From my own experience I know that house-owners now lend out money on mortgage of house property at from 6 to 8 per cent.; whereas the rate of interest formerly was 12 per cent. Hitherto no

difficulty was found in the assessment of property in Calcutta till we came to the memorable case of Nundolall Bose. I know of no other case which was appealed to the High Court. There was one other case appealed to the Small Cause Court from an over-assessment of the Justices. Besides these two cases I am not aware of any other where, as far as the Commissioners are concerned, any difference has arisen between them and the rate-payers. The case of Nundolall Bose, which gave rise to the proposed alteration in the mode of assessment, shows that in that case no attempt was made to ascertain the lettable value of the property, but the assessor professedly took a certain percentage on the market value. Nundolall Bose appealed to the Commissioners. A Bench of five Commissioners sat. There was no denial that the assessment was made irrespective of the lettable value and solely on a percentage of the value of the property. The Commissioners made a slight reduction, which did not satisfy the appellant, and he applied to the High Court for a rule of *certiorari*. The matter first came before Mr. Justice Pigot, who was of opinion that the Commissioners were not justified in making the assessment in the way they did; but that they had acted within their jurisdiction, and the High Court could not interfere. That decision was appealed against, and the appeal was heard by the then Chief Justice, Sir Richard Garth, and Mr. Justice Wilson. There was nothing before those Judges to show that there was any attempt to fix the assessment on the lettable value of the property, and the statement made, that the assessment had been reduced out of regard to the Pleader who acted for Babu Nundo Lall Bose, was not challenged in any way. The Appeal Court held that this was not a question of jurisdiction but of a mistake made by the Commissioners in fixing the assessment on a principle not warranted by the law, and the rule was made absolute. I do not think there is anything in that case to justify a change in the principle of assessment hitherto followed, and to make the value of property the basis of assessment. It is contrary to all the principles of rating in England so far as I am aware. The case referred to in the report of the Select Committee is in respect of a manufactory. It is a case in which Mr. Justice Whiteman said there should be a hypothetical tenant. Probably in the case of Nundolall Bose, if it could have been shown that the lettable value could not be ascertained, and that it was necessary to presume a hypothetical tenant, the result might have been different; but the assessor simply stated that he took the percentage which he considered fair and reasonable ($2\frac{3}{4}$ per cent.) on the value of the property. I submit it is quite evident from the ruling in this case that the law as it at present stands does not warrant the value of the property being taken as the basis of assessment. What has happened to justify the proposed change in the law? Simply this case of Nundolall Bose. If my amendment is adopted, the ordinary method of assessment will be the lettable value. Where that cannot be ascertained, a percentage on the value would be taken; but then there would be this safeguard, that it would need to be sanctioned by the Commissioners. The cases in which this mode of assessment would be resorted to would be exceptional cases where the lettable value cannot be ascertained, but the ordinary mode of assessment would be the lettable value.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—I would suggest that the Council should adjourn at this stage. This is, I think, the most difficult section in the Bill. It is beset with difficulties, and it is one to which I have given more attention than to any other part of the Bill. Several principles of extreme difficulty are involved in it; and before I proceed to propose the amendment of which I have given notice, I would ask the President to adjourn the Council.

His Honour the President said:—I am rather unwilling to cut short this discussion in the middle of it; but if the hon. member in charge of the Bill thinks it expedient to take time to consider the suggestions which have been made before making his reply, I think it would be wrong in me to refuse an adjournment.

The further consideration of items Nos. (15), (16), and (17), and of the other clauses of the Bill, was postponed till the next sitting of the Council.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 14th April, 1888.

Calcutta,
The 1st May 1888.

H. A. D. PHILLIPS,
For Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 67.

The Council met at the Council Chamber on Saturday, the 14th April 1888, at 11 A.M.

Present:

The HON. SIR STEUART COLVIN BAYLEY, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *presiding*.
The HON. G. C. PAUL, C.I.E., *Advocate-General*.
The HON. H. J. REYNOLDS, C.S.I.
The HON. C. P. L. MACAULAY, C.I.E.
The HON. T. T. ALLEN.
The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON, KT.
The HON. SIR ALFRED CROFT, K.C.I.E.
The HON. MOULVIE ABDUL JUBBAR.
The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER.
The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, C.I.E.
The HON. C. H. MOORE.
The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE.
The HON. H. PRATT.

CALCUTTA AND SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITIES AMALGAMATION BILL.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that the clauses of the Bill to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the municipal affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, as further amended, be further considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

[The adjourned debate on section 122 was resumed.]

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—The amendment which stands in my name has been wrongly shown in the notice paper. I gave notice of two amendments in respect to this section, each distinct from the other, the first to substitute for the words 'the estimated cost of the building' 'the estimated present cost of building the house.'

The other to add the words—

"When a house is occupied by the owner under such exceptional circumstances as renders a valuation of 5 per cent. of the cost of building, less depreciation, excessive, a lower percentage may be taken."

It seems to me that this provision stands on quite a different footing, and therefore I put it separately, although it may be discussed with the other amendment. If both are put as one amendment, they would stand or fall together; but if put separately this branch of the amendment might be adopted, although the first portion might be rejected. Having Your Honour's permission to put my amendments in this way, I shall now proceed to discuss them. As I stated to the Council at the last meeting, my reason for asking for the adjournment of this discussion was that the question is the most difficult and most important which we have to face. Most important because it will be easy to show, and in fact it has been shown by my hon. friend Mr. Allen, that there is an abuse prevalent in the existing system which renders the whole incidence of taxation in the town unequal—an abuse which goes to the root of the whole equity of our municipal taxation. If that is an opinion which I can conclusively establish, then a case is made out for correcting it, and it is not difficult to point out to a certain extent the direction in which amendment should take place. But as to the exact wording which will best meet the case, there is considerable difficulty, and it is a matter on which I may fairly appeal to the assistance of the whole Council to help me in solving the difficulty in the best manner possible. A few words I ought to say in the first instance as regards the serious abuse which it seems to me indispensable to correct in the new Bill. It is this. Obviously fair and equal valuation lies at the root of all municipal taxing. If one house is estimated at half its proper value and another at its full

value, it is perfectly evident that the same injustice is done as if you put a rate of 5 per cent. upon one and of 10 per cent. upon the other. If it is a fact that a large portion of Calcutta is being valued at more rather than less than double of the other, it means that more rather than less than double taxation has been levied from one class of rate-payers as compared with the other, and it is difficult to conceive any abuse which more urgently requires remedy than this. It is not so much a case as between the south and the north of the town, as between different classes of the community. The class which has benefited, I think unjustly, is the class living in their own houses. The class which has suffered has been first and chiefly the business community; that portion of the community which does the work of Calcutta, and which most contributes to its wealth and greatness, and in this class must be included public offices and buildings. In the second category are all those classes of the community who live in tenanted houses. These are the two classes who suffer; while the class who are living in their own houses have had an unfair advantage. If that is the case, the first point to notice is that it is exactly the opposite of the distinction which should be made, if any. Business premises, according to political economists, ought not to be taxed at all, and on the principle of this tax, as pointed out by Mill, whatever portion of a house is occupied for business purposes ought to be exempted altogether. That obviously would not be practicable in Calcutta. Still this much is reasonable, that certainly the business parts of the town ought not to be selected for exceptional taxation. I will not contend that any immunity ought to be given; but if any immunity ought to be given, then the only sound principle of justice in municipal taxation is that that portion of a property which is devoted to reproductive purposes—business purposes—ought rather to be exempted. Then there is another principle why business premises should not be too heavily taxed. For water-supply and some other purposes, they pay much more than the benefits they receive. There is no difficulty in showing, in fact I have already shown, that a large portion of the business part of the town undoubtedly pays more for water than the advantage they get in return. I am merely pointing out that if there is to be any distinction, if all classes are not to be put on the same footing, the portion of the community engaged in business is the one which ought rather to be treated with consideration.

Next as regards tenanted houses, their occupiers also may put in a claim for indulgence. Certainly, as regards the water-supply, they get their share: but a large portion of the revenue of the town goes to making improvements or paying interest for improvements. Suppose a great improvement is made. If the money is laid out wisely, property rises in value. So long as there is a lease the tenant enjoys the benefit, but when the lease expires, the result is that the rent is raised. It is therefore a well-recognised principle that, in so far as taxation is devoted to improvements, and not to ordinary current expenditure, the taxing of occupiers who are tenants, and occupiers who are owners, on the same basis, is not equitable. I do not like to take up the time of the Council by reading long extracts; but I may say that this is very clearly pointed out in the last pages of Fawcett's Political Economy. Therefore I say that the two classes now worst off are those which, if there should be any immunity at all, ought rather to be favoured. But so far from being favoured they have not merely been over-assessed, but another class has been under-assessed. I say they have been over-assessed, because in making a valuation you should on principle allow such deductions as will enable the property to be kept in such a condition as to continue to command the full letting value. Suppose Rs. 3,000 is the annual letting value, but, to keep the property in a state to obtain that value, Rs. 500 have to be spent annually for repairs: you ought to deduct this Rs. 500 for repairs before fixing the fair letting value. That is never done in Calcutta, and the objection has been dismissed with the remark that taking the assessment all round it comes to the same thing in the long run. But in this instance it is not an all round deduction. Houses occupied by owners have been assessed on a totally different principle. They have not been assessed much below their value: therefore the classes I speak of—persons occupying business premises and tenanted houses—have been assessed on the gross rent realised, and they have consequently been over-assessed to the extent of 10 or 20 per cent., while

others occupying their own houses have been assessed at less than the true value. My hon. friend Babu Kali Nath Mitter has said that I am unnecessarily stirring up dirty water, that hitherto things have worked well, and he does not see why I need have raised the question. But I maintain that I should have been absolutely wanting in my duty, when my attention was drawn to the unfairness, if I had not laid before the Select Committee proposals for remedying it.

Assuming that this inequality of assessment does exist, and that the injustice should be redressed, the question is how should it be done? The first question is, to what is it due? I have taken a great deal of trouble to discuss the matter with several Commissioners and the officers of the Corporation, and, so far as the state of facts is concerned, I have found no real dispute but I have found many persons ready and eager to justify the system. I have therefore pressed them to disclose the reasons for favouring one class of the community. I give the best reasons I have heard. One very intelligent advocate argued that when the owner lets his house he gets an income, and therefore he feels that he ought to pay a rate on that income as a deduction from his profits; he receives Rs. 1,000 and pays Rs. 100. But when he gets no profit, and is living in his own house, he feels it particularly hard that he should have to pay anything. It is not difficult to understand the sentiment; but how about those who have to pay Rs. 1,000 to occupy a house? If the person who makes no income from his house feels the payment of rates a grievance, what must the person feel who has to pay rent and rates besides? If the owner who gets no return feels it a grievance that he has to pay an equal rate of taxation, ought not the person who pays rent to feel that he ought to have a portion of the rent returned to him? Arguments of this kind cannot help the matter. There is, I am aware, a strong sentiment that my proposal is extremely unjust. It is looked upon as a grievous act of oppression, reflecting the greatest possible discredit on me and on some hon. members of the Council who adopt my proposal; but surely an accusation such as this must rest on something better than the sentiments of those whose pockets it touches, it must be shewn to have some reasonable foundation.

Another argument advanced is this, that a gentleman, when he builds a house to dwell in, looks upon it as his jewels or his ornaments, and he feels it as great a hardship to be taxed for that house as if he is taxed on his diamonds and his pearls. Lastly, we have the objection which is embodied in the amendment before the Council, proposed by my hon. friend Babu Kali Nath Mitter, which says: "Provided that in making the assessment under clause (*b*) the estimated value of ornamental works in any house or building should be excluded." That in fact he ought not to pay anything more than before for the brick and mortar. Is that reasonable? If a person spends a certain sum to ornament his house, plainly he ought to pay on that sum just as much as he ought to pay on any outlay for additional buildings.

The next point is what are the causes of this anomaly? One cause is the system of procedure in force for the last 12 years; the other is, to the wording of the substantive law. As regards the system of procedure, the assessor fixes the valuation. On his doing so, if the owner is dissatisfied, he has the option of appealing either to the Small Cause Court or to a bench of three Commissioners from which the executive officers of the Corporation are excluded. As a matter of fact, the second of those modes of appeal is invariably adopted. Within my experience I have known, I suppose, of 200 or 300 appeals against assessments, and I have known of only one appeal to the Small Cause Court. The appeal to a bench of three Commissioners is almost invariably followed. In the law of 1863, and in the revised law of 1866, the rule was that the appeal should be heard by three Justices, the Vice-Chairman being usually one. But on the motion of the late Hon. Kristo Das Pal in 1876, objection was taken to any executive officer of the Corporation sitting on Assessment Benches; and that objection was allowed, and the results that appeals are now heard by three Commissioners. We have had various systems in the selection of the three Commissioners to hear such appeals. Under the latest system the selection has been by lot amongst those who offer to sit on appeal benches, volunteers being invited for the purpose. To this appeal, which is made once in [illegible] generally rather more than half the Commissioners respond. The [illegible]

Commissioners, as a rule abstain. It is true it is their own fault, but they consider they have not the time to spare. The Assessment Committee thus consists of about 36 Native Commissioners and about 4 European Commissioners; and I only know of 3 Europeans who have ever sat on appeal benches during the last six or seven years. Nearly all these Commissioners are owners residing in their own houses. I do not say that this has been designed; it comes about by natural drift; they are most interested, therefore they put their names down, and they naturally have sympathy with their own class and look kindly on any interpretation of the law which tells in their own favour. They have adopted one standard for houses occupied by owners and a totally different one for houses occupied by tenants or for business purposes, or for large Government buildings. The Government officers have accepted the assessments, and Government buildings have on the whole been assessed at a fair valuation.

Now, as regards this lenient interpretation of the law, I ask the Council to bear with me while I explain what the law is. The present law of assessment in England dates from the time of William the Fourth. Before that time it was in great confusion. At that time an Act was passed which has maintained its ground ever since. It prescribes that the valuation is to be the rent at which the tenement might reasonably be expected to let from year to year, free of all usual tenant's rates and taxes, and deducting therefrom the average annual cost of repairs, insurance, and other expenses, if any, necessary to keep the estate in a state to command such rent. The words adopted by the Indian Legislature are "the rent at which it may be reasonably expected to let from year to year." That is in the existing Act and in the present Bill, and the principle has been everywhere accepted as the best. Although in England an amendment of the law is now considered necessary by all authorities, nevertheless the law has worked fairly well there owing to the liberal interpretation which has been put by the Courts on the words of the Act. The difficulty which has to be faced, is how to apply it to houses which are not ordinarily let, such as large manufactories, light-houses, hospitals, and, above all, large family mansions. The case of large family mansions soon came up in England, and the very same abuse resulted there for some time. Instead of being assessed at anything like their proper value, such mansions were assessed at a mere song, on the ground that no one would be likely to take houses like those on rent from year to year. On this subject Mr. Mill says:—

"The public were justly scandalised on learning that residences like Chatsworth or Belvoir were only rated at the imaginary rate of perhaps 200 a year, under the pretext that owing to the great expense of keeping them up they could not be let for more, probably even they could not be let for that, and if the argument were a fair one they ought not to have been taxed at all. But a house tax is not intended as a tax on incomes derived from houses, but on expenditure incurred for them. The thing which it is wished to ascertain is what a house costs to the person who lives in it, not what it would bring in if let to some one else. When the occupier is not the owner and does not hold on a repairing lease, the rent he pays is the measure of what the house costs him; but when he is the owner some other measure must be sought. A valuation should be made of the house, not what it would sell for, but what it would cost for rebuilding it, and the valuation might be corrected by an allowance for what it had lost in value by time, or gained by repairs and improvements."

Does not every word of this argument thoroughly bear out and justify the changes proposed in this section?

But how has the law been interpreted in England? I have here a manual on assessments by Lumley published in, and I will read to you the summary of decisions given by the Superior Courts in the cases of manufactories, light-houses, family residences, and hospitals (Here the Hon. Member read from the manual).

What can be more reasonable than the spirit of these decisions? The determination which the Courts manifest not to allow the letting test to be used as a handle for under-assessment, on the plea of no tenants coming forward to offer more. They invariably insist that either the cost of building with ground rent, or the market value, must be taken to determine the rent which a hypothetical tenant should pay.

How, on the other hand, has the law been applied in Calcutta? I am not referring to the decision of the High Court in the case of Nundolall Bose, partly because it has very little to do with the matter, because the decision in

that case is not constructive, but merely reverses the decision of the Appellate Bench. What is the principle on which our assessor has proceeded under the guidance of these Appellate Benches? I have questioned him very closely on the point, and he thinks. that in general the Assessment Benches do not proceed on any principle at all. Just consider what is likely to be the principle of action of three gentlemen, taken haphazard, who have never sat before together, and who have forty appeals to decide in the course of an afternoon. But still they are clearly in agreement on one point, that if any one desires to let his family residence, he is not likely to get any one to rent it at its full value. There is no demand for such houses, and he will perhaps have to wait a long time before he can get a tenant at all; when he gets one, a small sum will be offered. Hence on that principle they value such houses just as was done in the case of Chatsworth and Belvoir at very small amounts. Now I put it to the Council that this is not a proper interpretation of the law. I believe it to be erroneous and contrary to the spirit of the interpretation in England. When a house is built for occupation by the owner, and the owner is the tenant himself, that house has found its tenant, and you have not got to go into the highways and byeways to find another tenant; but to ask what is the tenancy worth to him, and not to any imaginary successor. He builds it to suit his own taste and family, and has no intention of letting it. Now so much do the owners of such houses value the tenancy that far from this principle leading to too low an assessment, it would, if correctly applied, lead to over valuation. It would take two or three times the fair value of the house to tempt them to give it up. Of course that is partly due to the sentiment of attachment to ancestral property, and, above all, to the desire to live in their own houses. It is said that it is not fair to make a man pay for his sentiment. This may be admitted: but it remains that if the true test, the value of the tenancy to the actual tenants, were looked to, they would have to pay much more rather than less than others; and if the present law were applied by an unsympathetic instead of a sympathetic tribunal, they would soon come to their senses and see the justice of applying some other test.

I consider therefore that I have fully shewn, looking to the very different way in which the present words of the law may be interpreted, the necessity for changing that wording. The same difficulty was found by Mr. Goschen's Parliamentary Committee; and in the Bill, which he brought before Parliament, he thought it necessary to add some sections about taking the capital sum paid for the house. Opinion oscillates between two different tests. The first is to take "the capital sum which would be paid for the house," which is the same virtually as the market value, or should be so. The second, the cost of building, which in several decisions is said to be the best and the proper test, or, as Mill has it, the present cost of the building, allowing for depreciation. When my hon. friend Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee proposed at the last meeting the words "market value," I was disposed to accept the suggestion, because it is, on the whole, a question of equity, as people would not be willing to under-value their own property. On the other hand, there is an objection to use the words "cost of building," because it is not quite clear whether it should be the original or the present cost of the building. The original cost is not a fair test. The cost of building might have been much less 30 or 40 years ago; the true test is the cost of building now, not then. On the other hand, as regards "market value," I have been dissuaded from accepting this test by my hon. friends the learned Advocate-General and the Legal Remembrancer; they consider the expression "market value" to be fraught with far more embarrassment, and prefer taking the present cost of building the house, making due allowance for deterioration. After full consideration I have come to the conclusion that it is best to be advised by experts in a matter of this kind, and I therefore submit that the wording should be "estimated present cost of building the house, less an allowance for depreciation on account of deterioration."

Then as regards percentage, the Committee at first thought [redacted] per cent., or nearly 16 years' purchase, to be a fair assessment, and that is usually taken by the Courts in the valuation of property; but the remonstrances to that were so strong, that by a narrow majority we thought it better to reduce it to 5 per cent. Less than 5 per cent. I cannot say is fair. I cannot think that

in ordinary circumstances 5 per cent. on the cost would be too high an assessment, looking at the rate of interest. At the same time I have, after giving very careful consideration to the question, thought it necessary in a subsequent amendment, to which I shall refer now, to add these words: "When a house is occupied by the owner under such exceptional circumstances as renders a valuation of 5 per cent. of the cost of building, less depreciation, excessive, a lower percentage may be taken." I would not propose this if the appeal is to be left as heretofore to the haphazard tribunal of three men to-day and a different set of three men to-morrow, because I am afraid the exceptions, as in the Latin grammar, will be the rule. But I hope in future to have a fair-minded and impartial officer to decide objections to assessments under an appeal to a judicial tribunal, so that it may be shorn of the objections which I would otherwise admit. I shall now explain the necessity for this clause. A person builds a house for his own use and to suit his tastes and his means, and when he occupies it you may fairly rate him at the full value of the house to him; but circumstances may change very materially. Subsequently, whether in one, two or three generations, the family may fall into less prosperous circumstances, as happens in this country very frequently. They have this house on their hands; their circumstances are such that they would not have built so expensive and well-kept a house; they would with their means have built a much less pretentious house. They have only three alternatives at hand; they have either to sell or to let the house, or to continue to live in it themselves. It is hard, looking to the great attachment to ancestral property in this country, to drive owners to these alternatives; but if he retain the house you cannot in justice say that it is worth the same to him as it was to his ancestor who built it. To him it is really not worth more than he could get for it if he sold it or let it. You cannot make out that the house is worth more than it will command in the market, and I should therefore be very reluctant to make a hard-and-fast rule in the case of poor house-owners of this kind. I think that in such extreme cases an assessment of 4, 3 and even 2 per cent. might be taken equitably as the fair value in the case of once wealthy families whose property and circumstances have become depreciated. I propose to move this as a separate amendment, because I do not think I ought to include the amendment on the general principle with this amendment, which is intended to deal only with exceptional cases. I hope the Council will fully realise that such a clause is essential, if we are to keep a 5 per cent. valuation as the general principle on which residential houses ought to be assessed, where they now pay 4 per cent. or even less: on the other hand even 4 per cent. would in some cases be very hard. We should levy taxation fairly over the town, but at the same time should not be unjust to those families in impoverished circumstances who have inherited houses of a better kind. For these reasons I ask the Council to consider these two amendments.

The HON. MR. ALLEN said—This is one of the hon. member's last thoughts. During the two years the Bill has been before the Council, I do not believe that this proposal has ever been brought forward. The early part of his speech distinctly showed the evils to be guarded against; and having guarded against those evils by a section which is substantially the same as the Select Committee has provided, he proceeds to undo the whole and to introduce a clause which is vague above all vagueness. Having erected a dyke to keep out the sea, he is not content till he burrows a hole through it which lets in the sea again. He provides that "when a house is occupied by the owner under such exceptional circumstances as renders a valuation of 5 per cent. of the cost of building, less depreciation, excessive, a lower percentage may be taken." And he mentions one single circumstance to which the exception would apply, viz. where a man lives in a bigger house than his circumstances warrant. But the words of his clause reach far beyond anything of that kind, and they are words which should not find a place in any law. They are, as I said, vague beyond any permissible degree of vagueness, and they afford not the slightest indication as to what limits the reduction may extend. And further with reference to the words "valuation of 5 per cent. of the cost of building being excessive." With reference to what is it excessive? Not with reference to the valuation of the property. The whole

system of municipal taxation proceeds on the idea that the property owned by a person within a municipality is an indication of the amount of tax to be paid by him; he is to pay in proportion to the extent of his property. Whether he is a poor man or a rich man, whether he occupies it himself or lets it, is immaterial for purposes of municipal taxation. His poverty would be a good ground to reduce his income-tax, or any tax which takes the circumstances of the individual into consideration. But when the law discards all consideration of the circumstances of individuals, and takes into account only the value of property in the municipality, if the circumstances of a man are to render the valuation of his property excessive, we have altogether a new principle introduced; it is utterly impossible to say how far it will extend, or to what extent the resources of the municipality will be affected by it. The hon. member is unwilling to allow appeals to the assessment benches of Municipal Commissioners, and suggests that the decision on appeals should be left to the Small Cause Court. But suppose enquiries into these exceptional circumstances are to be held by the Small Cause Court. It is the bounden duty of this Council to lay down some indication of the character of the exceptional circumstances which should be admitted as a sufficient justification for a reduction of the assessment valuation. I can imagine nothing more exceptional than the position of Government House, which is occupied only for three months in the year; the Government may ask for a heavy reduction of the assessment. Then there is the Indian Museum, which is a building occupied by the Government not for any benefit of its own, but for the public good. Can anything be more exceptional? Suppose the residential house of a Hindu gentleman proves unhealthy, and that its inmates are unable to work more than three days in the week on account of illness. Who can say that that is not an exceptional circumstance, and the parties may ask the Court to take into consideration the unhealthiness of the house. Hotels are not very numerous in this town, and therefore occupation as a hotel is an exceptional circumstance. Messrs. Dykes & Co. have premises behind the Great Eastern Hotel a mile in circumference; that is exceptional. All these may be held to be exceptional circumstances. But while the hon. member means to limit the reduction of the assessment to the case of probably one or two respectable gentlemen in reduced circumstances, all these classes of cases may be brought successfully before the Small Cause Court. [The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison—The contention is that the property in these cases is of less value than before.] Property has a certain value according to the amount of money sunk in it, and when there is a demand for such property, as at the time of the Exhibition, it will certainly command its full value: when it is otherwise, it is simply that there is no demand and that purchasers are not forthcoming. Were a wealthy family to migrate from the mofussil into Calcutta, they would have to pay for the house its full value according to the expense of construction, and the situation of the fact is that there is no change in the value of the property, but an impoverished man is perhaps not justified in living in such a house. In natural history we learn that the oyster dying by starvation expends its last efforts of strength in constructing for itself a smaller shell to match its reduced size. If it is a fact that the people of this country are unwilling to follow the example which nature has set them, I can therein see no sufficient reason to violate the principle of this Act. I think that under any circumstances this clause in its present state ought not to be accepted for its vagueness and uncertainty.

The Hon. the Advocate-General said:—I wish to say just one word as to what has fallen from my hon. friend Mr. Allen. The clause goes on the supposition that there are circumstances which depreciate the value of the building. The whole of my hon. friend's argument proceeds on the assumption that there are no circumstances under which a valuation of 5 per cent. would be excessive. That is a very different thing. Suppose a person of eccentric habits builds a large house in a grotesque fashion; it suits his fancy, but after he dies it will not be valued at the price the building cost? It is an exceptional case which would fall under this clause. I quite agree with my hon. friend that no human wisdom, ingenuity or ability could define the range of exceptional circumstances, and frame a section which would clearly be applicable to all cases. Cases of this sort cannot be defined; this must be left to the discretion of the court for determination. It must not be supposed that

in the northern part of the town property yields a return of 5 or 6 per cent. when they are let; sometimes they fetch only 3½ or 4 per cent. It will be impossible for the Legislature to summarise all the exceptional circumstances; they can only enunciate some general principle such as a reasonable person could interpret. I do not see that that makes a hole in the rule laid down. The rule applies to ordinary circumstances, leaving the court to deal with exceptional cases as they arise. I think it does honour to the hon. member in charge of the Bill that he has thought proper to introduce some sort of a safety-valve which may be applied in the case of those who have been excessively assessed.

Then with regard to the substantive section. The hon. member in charge of the Bill dwelt on the value of the house to the owner. I might put it in this way. Suppose a man wants a house to suit his fancy and another man is to build it for him; the cost of the house would be a fair test of its value to the occupant. The only thing I am a little in doubt about is whether the words "a lower percentage may be taken" ought to be allowed to remain, and whether or not a minimum limit of assessment ought not to be given. I throw this out as a suggestion for the consideration of the hon. member in charge of the Bill.

The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar said:—The amendment proposed to be introduced by the hon. member in charge of the Bill, and the arguments which have been adduced both in favour and against it, clearly show that it is inconvenient to have two different standards of valuation of houses in town. This introduction of two different standards of valuation will lead to most unfair and inequitable conclusions unless we can make these two standards correspond. Now we have just heard from the hon. and learned Advocate-General that, in the northern part of the town, houses built for dwelling purposes would scarcely fetch even so much as 3 per cent. of the cost of building. [The Advocate-General—I said sometimes.] It is a notorious fact that houses built at the same cost in different parts of the town fetch different rents, the difference being sometimes enormous—two, three, four, and even tenfold. Take the case of two similar houses, one in the south and one in the north of the town, both built at a cost of Rs. 50,000. The house in the south of the town may fetch Rs. 200 a month or even Rs. 300; whereas a similar house built in the northern portion of the town at the same cost would scarcely fetch Rs. 100 a month. Suppose both the houses were let, one fetching Rs. 200 and the other only Rs. 100. Under the first standard, that is, taking the rent as the net annual value, the two houses would be assessed at different rates. But suppose the owner of the house built in the north of the town, after having let it for one year, chooses to keep it to himself, he would have to pay now at quite a different rate from what he was doing when he got Rs. 100 a month. Would that be fair? You will now assess his house by the standard of cost, whereas a year ago you assessed him to the extent of the net annual income or rent of the house. Then, again, what is to be the basis of the estimated present cost? Are you prepared to accept the cost as given by the owner of the house? Is it not a fact that similar houses may be built at very different costs? Two similar houses built, one under the supervision of the owner, the other by a contractor, would cost different sums of money: the one could be built for much less than the other. That being so, how are you to proceed in making the estimate? You must accept the cost given by the owner. In the one case it may be Rs. 50,000; in the other as much as Rs. 80,000. A difference of Rs. 30,000 would make a great difference in the assessment. It is also notorious that large houses like those of Baboo Nundo Lall Bose, Maharajah Sir Jotendro Mohun Tagore, and others built by different contractors, are built at enormously different costs, each contractor having his own estimates and prices differing considerably from those of others. How would you assess such houses? Taking all these things into consideration, I am of opinion that the use of two different standards of valuation of houses would not work fairly and justly. You must revert to the old standard of the annual rental of the house; otherwise you will be doing serious injustice to occupiers and owners of houses.

The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee said:—I do not wish to protract this debate much longer. I will only ask permission to say a few words in answer to the remarks against my amendment, and to point out the objections to which some of those remarks are open. My hon. friend on my left (Mr. Allen), who spoke against my amendment at the last meeting of the Council, was pleased to remark that the portion of section 122 to which I objected was rendered necessary by the under-assessment of houses in the northern division of the town resulting from the Committees of the Commissioners being led away by personal feelings of favour towards their friends and neighbours. [The Hon. Mr. Allen—I did not say so. I referred to what had occurred in mofussil municipalities.] My hon. friend reminds me that he referred to the Commissioners of mofussil municipalities, with whom we have nothing to do just now. It is fortunate that I was not a mofussil Commissioner before the passing of Act III of 1884, in which the new assessment provision was incorporated for the first time. Then my hon. friend pointed out what to his mind was a shocking absurdity and inequity of assessment; the inequity, namely, of a house in the south of the town being assessed as 6 per cent. on the cost-price, whereas houses in the northern division are assessed at only 2½ per cent. But how is that an inequity? The whole argument assumes that we are bound, in making valuation for the purpose of rating, to have a certain uniform percentage on the money actually spent in building the house; that is the only basis on which all these arguments about inequality and inequity rest. Now my hon. friend was good enough to point out that we must base municipal taxation on the standard of the extent of interest that the rate-payer has in the municipality as determined by the capital sunk by him within its limits. Granting, for argument's sake, that the extent of permanent interest which a rate-payer has in immoveable property owned by him in the municipality ought to be the basis of taxation, I deny that the capital sunk in building a house is any indication of it. The capital may be misspent and may be partially irrecoverable when the property is put up for sale, and would it be right in such cases to tax a man for his folly because he has sunk capital which cannot be recovered? There is no reason or justice in that. It is not the capital sunk, but so much of it as can be recovered in the shape of market value which ought to be the standard of valuation for assessment. Adopt that standard, and you at once get rid of all those difficulties and anomalies which have been pointed out in the course of the discussion on the amendment moved to-day by the hon. member in charge of the Bill. And if you adopt the market value, you will after all be returning to the present law; for how is the market value ascertained? Every intending purchaser calculates what income the property will bring in if it were to be let out; and therefore ultimately we come to the expected letting value. The annual letting value and a proper percentage on the market value are convertible terms. Well, then, it is said it is a difficult thing to ascertain the market value. Perhaps it may be difficult: but is it not equally difficult to ascertain that which has been made the basis of the proposed law, as well as of the provision in the last amendment proposed by the hon. member in charge of the Bill? Here we have to make a deduction on account of depreciation. How is that to be ascertained? Is it not at least as difficult as the other? Perhaps it is more so. The only fair way of ascertaining the amount of deduction on account of depreciation will be by finding the difference between the cost price and the present market value. That is the only way which will indicate what the deduction ought to be. If, then, we are beset with the same difficulty, in accepting the proposed provision, that we have in the existing law, where is there any good in the change? It is said by the hon. member in charge of the Bill that the cost-price or the estimated present cost-price indicates the value of the property, if not to a third party, at least to the owner; and that in the case of an owner building a house to live in he has found a tenant, and we have only to ask him how much rent he has to pay. It is clearly the interest from 4 to 6 per cent. on the capital he has spent. That may be true, but the argument has one fallacy in it. In the case of an ordinary tenant living in another man's house, he has the option of giving it up whenever it suits his convenience. In the other case he becomes a permanent tenant because he has invested his money in building a house for his own residence. It will not do, if afterwards

his means are reduced, for him to let the property, because it has been admitted by several hon. members that it will not yield anything like the interest on the capital sum; nor will it do to sell it, because it will not fetch anything like the sum spent in building it. If that be true, by adopting the other standard of valuation you ignore change in circumstances. These anomalies and sources of difficulty can be avoided only by taking the annual value as the basis of assessment, or, if that form appears objectionable, by putting in its stead a certain percentage of the market value. But really it comes to the same thing. I fail to see that anything has been pointed out to show why the section in the present law should not be re-introduced in this Bill.

The English law has been freely referred to on the point, and it has been remarked that under the English law rating proceeds on a different principle from that which has been the basis under the existing law. Instead of presuming to say what the English law is, I think I may put before the Council the remarks of the late Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Wilson, in the case of Nondo Lall Bose *versus* The Corporation of Calcutta. Sir Richard Garth in that case said—

"The principle of rating on which the Commissioners are directed to proceed is the same which is adopted in England; and similar difficulties arise there in the case of gentlemen's parks and mansions which are laid out for residential purposes and not for sale or letting. But such properties are nevertheless constantly rated upon the basis of their annual letting value."

And Mr. Justice Wilson in the same case said—

"But the whole system of taxation and assessment under the Act in question is obviously borrowed in its general outlines from English Rating Acts."

I have already pointed out that the case referred to in the report of the Select Committee is not at all a case in point. It is a case with reference to the valuation of a manufactory, and I do not think we have anything to do with such a case, because we have exempted machinery from valuation. With regard to dwelling-houses, the basis of assessment is not the estimated cost, but the market value. The report of Mr. Goschen also adopts the same basis. There is no sound reason for adopting the cost-price, either actual at the time the house was built, or estimated at the present time, as the basis of valuation.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said—The hon. member in charge of the Bill has confidently stated that he has made out a strong case for making an alteration in the law. He makes that statement on two suppositions. First, that his statement of facts is perfectly correct; and secondly, that the present state of the law is unjustifiable. I have no hesitation in joining issue with him as to the point of fact. I think it is an error to suppose that as a general rule the owner of a residential house has hitherto been under-assessed. I admit that in certain exceptional cases it has been so, but barring those exceptions, I submit that the statement of the hon. member is wholly erroneous, and, if necessary, I think it would be well, before the Council finally decides this matter, to have a thorough enquiry on the point. My hon. friend has not given his authority, but has said that his friends amongst the Commissioners and other persons have made certain statements to him. I am quite willing that this matter should be referred to the Commissioners, and I have little doubt as to the manner in which their view will be expressed. I venture to think that before any change is made in the law on the supposition that a certain statement of facts is true, it is necessary to make a thorough examination of the facts and to find out whether such statement has proceeded from erroneous impressions or is justified by the actual state of things. Now when the Local Government was pleased to intimate its willingness to assist the Commissioners in raising further funds, and with that view appointed the Octroi Committee, I never heard that there was such a simple method by which the income of the municipality might be greatly increased. If the reports of the Calcutta Municipality from 1877 to the present time are overhauled and examined, I am almost certain that not a single word will be found anywhere which will justify the statements which have been made by the hon. member in charge of the Bill. Will it be just, will it be right, without making due enquiry into this matter, so far as the question of fact is concerned, to

come to the conclusion that the owners of residential houses have not been fairly assessed up to the present time? I submit that it will not. As regards the law, the English law is applicable to this country. It is the law which in most cases is administered by the Courts here. If the law on the subject is that which has been propounded by my hon. friend the member in charge, why cannot he persuade the Judges to agree with him? I think it is going too far to say that it is impossible to have the law properly interpreted here. I think we have Judges here who are capable of enunciating the law in matters of this kind without any difficulty whatever. That being so, and as the provision of the law to which my hon. friend referred is based on the probable letting value of the property, why should not the matter be left there, and in exceptional cases, resort to the ruling of the different Judges in England, and fix the assessment in such cases on the basis my hon. friend has suggested? But he is not satisfied with that. He wants a change in the law. He has referred to what I said on the last occasion, and he said he felt it is his duty to point out the inequalities which exist. Of course he is responsible for his own acts, and what he considers his duty no doubt he will perform to the best of his ability. But it is also my duty to show the Council that we shall be doing a grave injustice if, without making due enquiries, we adopt the hon. member's proposal in this matter. He has entered into an elaborate discussion in order to show how it is that this inequality has come into existence. He has been pleased to refer to several appeals before assessment benches of the Commissioners; but it would have been better if he had pointed out the percentage of appeals allowed, of modifications made in the valuations of the assessor, and of appeals disallowed altogether. If these percentages are given, I am positive that the conclusion to which the Council will come will be different from that which my hon. friend asks the Council to adopt. I think that if those cases are carefully examined you will find that substantial justice has been done; that in most of the cases the appeals were rejected; that in about 30 or 35 per cent. of the appeals there were modifications made; and that in only a very small percentage appeals were wholly allowed. My hon. friend shakes his head. I am now speaking from recollection; but my hon. friend has the papers before him, and he could have given the information on this head without the slightest difficutly, and he could have shown that in most cases the appeals were allowed.

In the course of his argument he has been pleased to say that he would only support his modified proposal in the event of a proper system of appeal being fixed, and that proper system he has foreshadowed by his notice of amendment, that appeals are to be taken out of the hands of Commissioners and preferred to the Small Cause Court. I submit that it will be a great mistake to drive persons to the Small Cause Court, putting them to the expense of appointing vakeels and to the harassment and annoyance of frequent attendance for the purpose of having the appeals heard. There is another difficulty which has suggested itself to my mind, and which I shall refer to at the proper time in a much fuller manner than I shall do at present, viz., that by the constitution of the Court of Small Causes, there is no provision in the law which compels the Judges of that Court to take up this duty. Suppose the Judges refuse to entertain these appeals on the ground that the law which constitutes the Court does not provide for the hearing of such cases. What then would be the state of things? One executive officer would make the assessments, another would hear objections, and then, if the person was dissatisfied, he will be compelled to go to the Small Cause Court. In addition to the harassment and annoyance of frequent postponements, and to the absolute necessity of incurring expense for engaging vakils, the person preferring the appeal will run the risk, when such appeals become frequent, of the absolute refusal of the Small Cause Court Judge to hear him, on the ground that there is no provision under which that Court can be compelled to hear such appeals. I submit that this is a matter of very great importance, and that, before the facts stated by my hon. friend are accepted, it will be far better that an enquiry should be made; and [redacted] in the course of that enquiry it transpires that his position is unassailable, I shall then have nothing to say against his proposal; but I do think it will be altogether a mistake, especially when the rates are being consolidated, when the owners are to pay one-half and the occupiers the other half, to

have two modes of assessment. A great deal has been urged by my hon. friend to show that one class of rate-payers is now benefited at the expense of the other two classes. I am not prepared to admit that the two classes mentioned by my hon. friend are sacrificed for the benefit of the other class; it has not been ascertained that they consider they have been sacrificed. Therefore, it seems to me that before we give way to any of the arguments adduced by my hon. friend in respect of this matter, we should really realize what we are doing. It seems strange that no complaint of any kind has been heard up to the present time from one class or the other of the unequal incidence of taxation. It seems strange that there should be such unequal incidence of assessment. It can only be possible if the assessment has been made on some erroneous basis; for if the Council would refer to the assessment of appeals, they would find that the percentage of appeals is very small. On the contrary, the rate-payers are generally satisfied by the assessments made by the officer of the Corporation. And if the percentage of appeals has not been large, what does it show? Either that the officer entrusted with the duty of assessing has entirely mistaken his vocation, or that he has made correct assessments. I think the Council would be perfectly justified, in the absence of any complaint, to come to the conclusion that the assessments have been justly made. Under these circumstances, I submit that we should pause and consider before we accept a mode of assessment which prescribes two different methods of valuation for two different classes of property. I am aware that I have myself proposed two methods; and, as far as that is concerned, it is open to my hon. friend to say that my remarks are somewhat out of place. But my alternative proposal is restricted to cases where, owing to exceptional circumstances, it is not possible to ascertain the letting value. It puts the matter on this sound footing, that it will only be in certain exceptional cases that the assessment will be affected. And then there will be the safeguard that the assessment will not be valid unless it is sanctioned by the Commissioners in meeting, showing that it will only be in exceptional cases that assessments under the second clause will be permitted. With these observations I leave the matter in the hands of the Council.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said in reply:—As regards the facts, I must leave every member of the Council to judge. We have just heard the statement made by a very competent member of the Council that if two similar houses be built in the two divisions of the town, each at a cost of Rs. 50,000, the house in the southern division would be assumed to carry a letting value of Rs. 200 a month or more, while the house in the northern division will be valued at only Rs. 100. Is any single circumstance more than that necessary to establish the case which I have laid before the Council? There is no question that land is more valuable in one part of the town than in another; but the moment you have bought the land, you have cleared the ground for the operations of Calcutta, which in the long run will look for the same return in one neighbourhood as in another, otherwise it will not be invested. Is not what has been stated above sufficient to establish my contention that the opinions of a large class of the community have completely lost their bearings in a matter of this kind? Is not that conclusive of the position I have taken that, where the lettable value cannot be ascertained, the valuation should be fixed at 5 per cent. on the estimated present cost of building the house? Can any one doubt that in the part of the town where this Council Chamber is situated, on the river bank, or in Chowringhee houses are assessed at fully 5 per cent. on their cost; probably more, either 6 or 7 per cent. If there is any doubt that in the native part of the town houses are assessed less highly, then why this outcry against 5 per cent.? So far from there being an outcry, we ought to be thanked for reducing it to 5 per cent. Is anything more necessary to show that my fundamental contention is right?

As regards the assessment benches, that will be more properly discussed in another stage of the proceedings. I shall only say further that the hon. and learned Advocate-General has correctly explained what is the meaning of the exceptional clause I have proposed. It does not mean an appeal *ad*

misericordiam to the poverty of the owner; it means that for some exceptional reason the valuation of 5 per cent. will be at times excessive, and when that can be shown, the operation of this clause will come in. One exceptional case is that in which property passes from the person who built it for his own purposes to his successor, to whom it is not worth what it was to the original owner. I should feel no difficulty in applying the principle to the other cases selected by the Hon. Mr. Allen. To Government House, the Museum, and the Great Eastern it would not apply; whereas the other case put by my hon. friend, where a person builds a house at great expense in a position which he thinks will be healthy, and the house turns out to be very unhealthy, is precisely one of these exceptional cases. The clause is proposed to meet such exceptional cases, and in each case the exceptional circumstances must be proved.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE's motion that, for the first paragraph of section 122, the following be substituted:—

"For the purpose of assessment under this Act, the annual value of land and the annual value of any house shall be the gross annual rent at which such land or house might reasonably be expected to let from year to year, less, in the case of a house, an allowance of ten per cent. for the cost of repairs, and for all other expenses necessary to maintain the house in a state to command such gross rent."

being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 4.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.

Noes 9.
The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon. the Advocate-General.
His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER's motion that, for section 122, the following be substituted:—

"The annual value of any house or land for the purposes of assessment shall—

(*a*) in cases where the gross annual rent at which such house or land might reasonably be expected to let from year to year can be ascertained, be such gross annual rent, except that, in case of a house, an allowance of ten per cent. shall be made for the cost of repairs and for all other expenses necessary to maintain such house in a state to command such gross rent:

(*b*) in cases where such gross annual rent cannot be ascertained, be four per cent. on the sum obtained by adding the estimated cost of building, less a reasonable amount to be deducted on account of depreciation, if any, to the estimated value of the land valued with the house as part of the same premises:

Provided that in making the assessment under clause (*b*) the estimated value of ornamental works in any house or building should be excluded; and provided further that no assessment under the said clause shall be valid unless sanctioned by the Commissioners in meeting."

being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 3.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.

Noes 10.
The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
The Hon. the Advocate-General
His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON's motion that, for the words "the estimated cost of building" the words "the estimated present cost of building the house" be substituted, being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 5.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. The Advocate-General.	The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
His Honour the President.	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON's motion that the following clause be added to section 122:—

"When a house is occupied by the owner under such exceptional circumstances as renders a valuation of 5 per cent. of the cost of building, less depreciation, excessive, a lower percentage may be taken."

being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 7.	*Noes* 6.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
The Hon. the Advocate-General.	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
His Honour the President.	

So the Motion was carried.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, in line 14 of section 122, for the figure "5" the figure "4" be substituted.

He said:—I have already explained to the Council the reason of this amendment. The reason is that 5 per cent. is not anything like the profit which is likely to be made where the house is not built for letting purposes, but is the dwelling of the owner. The profit is much nearer 4 per cent. than 5. And if that is the case, there is no reason why the Council should adopt an arbitrary percentage instead of the real one, viz., the value of the property to the owner. In the course of the discussion on the last amendment, it has been abundantly shown that in the Northern Division of the town, house property does not bring anything like 5 per cent. on the cost price. Why, therefore, should we take 5 per cent. as the basis of valuation? It is only by adopting the figure "4" that we can do anything like justice. The adoption of the figure "5" does not rest on any principle of justice unless we hold that justice requires that a man must be taxed uniformly on capital whether it is sunk profitably or unprofitably. We may as well say that the same percentage of valuation must be taken on property drowned in a river within the municipality.

The Motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 4.	*Noes* 9.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	The Hon. the Advocate-General.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, at the end of section 123, the following proviso be inserted:—

"Provided that, for the purpose of dividing the town into districts under section one hundred and twenty-nine, the Commissioners may retain the valuation of the houses in any

part of Calcutta for a further period not exceeding six years, or may, with the same object, make a re-valuation for a less period than six years."

He said:—The town is divided into districts for the purposes of assessment, and each division is assessed in turn after six years. But it is not equally divided, and when the new area is added, it may be that by an accidental flush of assessments a great deal more will have to be taken in hand in one year than in another. Therefore I wish to give a power of re-arranging these assessment districts as may be convenient, and to allow an assessment which has terminated to go on for another period, or if the period happens to be a long one to re-assess a district for a shorter period. Suppose the assessment of a certain portion of the new area terminates inconveniently, and that it is desirable that it should be re-assessed, say, in 1892, it will be for the Commissioners to say, we will continue the existing assessment till 1892, or we will make a new valuation up to 1892. This is a new power which it is proposed to give to enable the assessments to be properly carried out.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—I propose to discuss together the following four amendments to be moved by myself for the omission of section 135 of the Bill, the substitution of a new section for section 136, the insertion of a new section after section 136, and the substitution of a new section for section 137, as well as the amendment to be moved by the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter for the omission from clause (*a*) of section 135 of the words "the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and." My amendments run thus—

(1). That section 135 be omitted.

(2). That, for section 136, the following be substituted:—

"Any person who is dissatisfied with a valuation made under this Chapter shall, in the case of houses, within fifteen days after the publication of the notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-two, or after receipt of the notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-three when such notice is received after the publication of the notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-two, and in the case of bustee or other land within fifteen days after the receipt of the special notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-four, deliver at the office of the Commissioners a notice in writing stating the grounds of his objection."

(3). That, after section 136, the following be substituted:—

"136A. All such objections shall be entered in a register to be maintained for the purpose, and on receipt of any objection, notice shall be given to the objector of a day and place when his objection will be investigated.

"On the day and place notified, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman (if the case is referred to him by the Chairman) shall hear the objection in the presence of the objector if he shall appear, or the Chairman or Vice-Chairman may, for reasonable cause, adjourn the investigation. When the objection has been determined, the order passed shall be recorded in the register of objections, together with the date of such order."

(4). That, for section 137, the following be substituted:—

"Any person dissatisfied with the orders passed on his objection may appeal to the Court of Small Causes having jurisdiction in the place where the house, land, or bustee land is situated. Such appeal shall be presented to the Court of Small Causes within thirty days of the decision of the objection under section one hundred and thirty-six A, and shall be accompanied with an extract from the register of objections containing the order objected to. No appeal shall be admitted unless an objection has first been taken under section one hundred and thirty-six."

He said:—First with regard to section 135. I have for a long time past thought that the present system of assessment benches is utterly unsound. In Select Committee it was known that my hon. friend would move that from clause (*a*) the words "Chairman or Vice-Chairman and" be omitted, and as we were desirous of getting on with the Bill, I suggested that he should bring forward his motion in Council, and I reserved my amendment also. It is an amendment in principle to be considered on its own merits. The present system is that a person aggrieved has a right of appeal to a bench of three Commissioners or to the Small Cause Court, and the former is always exercised. The effect of this is that the assessor knows perfectly well who is the controlling authority. The closing remark of my hon. friend in the last debate was that if the assessor did his duty no inequalities of assessment would happen. Is this remark either just or true? The assessor cannot rise above the body which controls him. If he knows the assessment will be revised on one principle,

naturally he cannot be expected to make his assessments on any other basis. The proportion of appeals is small, as he generally persuades people to accept his assessments. He knows perfectly well what system of assessment will ultimately prevail, and he adapts himself to it, and it is understood that houses occupied by their owners will be assessed on the rent which another tenant can be found to pay for it, and therefore the assessor assesses these houses on that principle. So far from the assessment bench not usually modifying what the assessor does, the fact is precisely the opposite. I have added up two pages of assessment appeals taken haphazard. In one of them there are 29 cases, and I find that the assessment was modified in 18 cases, and the objection fully allowed in 7 and disallowed in 4 cases only. Where there is an old assessment, and it is retained or reduced, I call that a rejection of the assessment *in toto*; where there is a new assessment, it is hard to say whether it is rejected or modified. In the next page 5 assessments are upheld out of 25; 19 are modified, and the other one, the objection is maintained in full. Again in another page the results are remarkable. In the Chirpore Road six houses are assessed. The first is a new assessment, which the assessor fixes at Rs. 1,800; the Committee reduces it to Rs. 1,200. In the next case the assessor fixes Rs. 3,000; the Committee reduces it to Rs. 1,200. In the case of the next house, formerly assessed at Rs. 720, the assessment is raised by the assessor to Rs. 900; the bench lower it to Rs. 600. In the next the former assessment was Rs. 480. The assessor raises it to Rs. 900. The bench reduce it to Rs. 360. In the next the former assessment was Rs. 360; the assessor raises it to Rs. 480. The assessment is reduced to Rs 240. The last case is that of a new house which the assessor values at Rs. 3,000; the bench reduce it to Rs. 1,200. I do not select these as average cases; they are no doubt extreme, but can any officer be expected to do his duty according to principle when the opinions he forms are upset in this manner, although he is a most experienced officer? I have often asked the assessor what he thinks is the best remedy, and it is instructive to hear what he says. One of his suggestions is, that the assessment benches should be obliged to give their reasons in all cases where they admit appeals or modify the assessments. The second suggestion is, that they should be required personally to satisfy themselves by seeing the house which has been assessed. For myself I do not think that the remedy lies in any of these courses. It is true that in England there have been Assessment Committees of two kinds. First, in parishes, introduced in 1837, and at first they were highly thought of. But actual experience showed that exactly the same objection applied there as here. It was found that their decisions were unequal and commanded no respect, and now they have been nearly discarded, and, as far as possible, not resorted to. Then there were Assessment Committees appointed by the Unions, and the object here was different: it was to check the partiality of officers in their own parishes. In 1869 an assessment law was passed for London under which the system of appeals was very elaborate. There was an Assessment Committee, whose functions were relegated to the hearing of objections, totally different from the supreme appellate benches here. After the assessments are made, the Assessment Committee revises them; then they are ready for appeals, and the rule is that anybody can appeal. Our idea is that only the owner of the house assessed may appeal. In England if a person's neighbour is under-assessed the aggrieved person may appeal. And the overseer of the parish may also object, and above all an officer appointed by the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, called the Surveyor of Taxes, and it is his duty to go round and see that the assessments are fair, and the decision of the Surveyor of taxes is made binding on the ultimate appellate bench of Justices from the decision of various Committees, unless it can be proved to be wrong. So the whole burden of proof is thrown on those who oppose the judgment of an experienced officer. The assessor here says I am thrown over for no reason. I have seen the house; it has so many large rooms. The appellant says they are small rooms, I cannot afford to pay. Instead of an assessment of Rs 180 which the assessor proposes, the Assessment Bench fixes Rs. 120, and it is settled. Is it possible for assessments to be carried on in this way on any fair and satisfactory manner? And some continuity of principle is needed. The system I propose, is, I am convinced, the only one if you want to have Calcutta fairly and

equally assessed. It is true that in Select Committee I accepted the Chairman or Vice-Chairman being a member of the Bench, and as a makeshift that would be something. He would be the principle of continuity, and that would do something. But I have only to appeal to the discussions of the last few days and ask you, looking to the extreme divergence of views, is it possible that a tribunal constituted by haphazard in this way can be an equal tribunal? Would it not depend on the lot whether an appeal would be decided on one way or the other? My hon. friend says he is confident that if an appeal is made to the Commissioners, they will endorse his views. He is right. But either that view is right or it is wrong. I say that it is wrong, and that from the very nature of the circumstances the Commissioners are disqualified from being a good tribunal. In a matter between class and class we choose a fair and impartial officer to decide. It is not a question of Municipal convenience or expediency. It is simply a question of justice between man and man, and is it fair to let the question depend upon the opinions of three Commissioners chosen by lot? That is not at all fair. The work of the Assessment Bench is judicial work, and must be made over to an officer who feels the responsibility, and who has constant experience. Therefore I am satisfied that if you wish to do what is right, you will accept the system of appeals which has always been in force in Bombay. There the Municipal Commissioner, an Executive officer, issues most elaborate instructions for the guidance of the assessing officer, and he is the person to whom the appeal comes, and if the appellant is dissatisfied, he goes to the Small Cause Court or to the Presidency Magistrate there. That is the system I wish to adopt in Calcutta. I am quite satisfied that it will be very fair, and that the assessments will be much more equal. If the Council is unwilling to adopt this system, I hope the section in the Bill will be allowed to remain by which the Chairman or the Vice-Chairman will be made members of the Assessment Bench. The feelings of the different classes of the community are so widely different and so incompatible, that I may almost say that it is a farce to leave the decision of these cases to Commissioners chosen by chance, who would take an entirely different view of the equity of the case if they belong to one class, and an entirely different view if they belong to another class. My object is simply to do justice to all classes of the people.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved that in clause *(a)* of section 135 the words "the Chairman or Vice-Chairman and" be omitted.

He said:—As regards the amendment of the hon. member in charge of the Bill, my first objection is this, that there is no provision in the Presidency Small Cause Court which confers jurisdiction in such cases on that Court. I appeal to the hon. and learned members, the Advocate-General and the Legal Remembrancer, to say whether it is so or not. [The Advocate-General—Opinions are divided: it is extremely doubtful.] I think the question is very doubtful. [Sir Henry Harrison—Numbers of cases have been decided under the provisions of all the Municipal Acts.] I went through the Presidency Small Cause Court Act on a recent occasion, and I found that in the Chapter on Jurisdiction there is nothing in my judgment to show that the Court can be compelled to take up a case of this kind. The hon. the Advocate-General is pleased to say that opinions are divided; two eminent lawyers came to one opinion and two to another. Therefore I am right in saying it is a doubtful question. In the second place the constitution of that Court is such that it has nothing to do with questions relating to immoveable property. The Judges who preside in that Court have not the experience necessary to enable them to determine the value of real property, because questions of that kind never come before them. They have to deal with questions relating to moveable property, matters of contract, and so on; and it is not a Court which in my humble opinion is capable of doing justice in cases of this kind, and it will not be the best tribunal to select for the purpose. When the Bill was in Select Committee, I intimated my intention to move for the omission of the words "Chairman and Vice-Chairman" which were inserted on the motion of the hon. member in charge, without in any way intimating that he reserved his amendment for the consideration of the Council. Not a word was then said by him as to the hearing of these appeals being taken out of the hands of the

Commissioners. The section regarding the mode of assessment will operate very hardly on the owners of residential houses. I have said before and I repeat that the hardship of dancing attendance on the Small Cause Court will be intolerable. Contested cases will not be decided in that Court in less than four or five months; sometimes they take years, and in my own experience I know of one case which took more than two years to decide. The cases in the Court are so numerous that it is impossible for the judges to do more than they are doing; and that being so, when a case of assessment comes on, the first thing which will infallibly happen will be its postponement for two months. That is the first satisfaction the appellant will have, and I cannot say in the ordinary course how many postponements will be made, and on each of these occasions a pleader will have to be engaged. I ask the Council whether it is right or just to drive persons to a Court not so constituted as to be able to deal with these cases in a proper manner. The English precedents referred to by the hon. member show that these appeals are placed before Justices. I ask how any continuity of principle can be maintained under such a procedure, as the Justices hearing appeals will not always be the same persons. Here in 1863 the duty of administering the affairs of the town was entrusted to the Justices of the Peace, and the assessment appellate benches were formed from amongst them. In 1876, on the amendment of the law, Commissioners were substituted for Justices, the change being only one in name. It is a singular fact that complaints as to the decisions of assessment appeals are heard here for the first time; they are not made the subject of complaint in the administration reports published from year to year. The Chairman never pointed out to the Commissioners that appeals are not conducted as they should be. On the contrary, judging from the fact that the number of appeals is very small in proportion to the number of assessments, I am emboldened to say that the mischief the hon. member speaks of does not exist. He has referred to a few cases to show that reductions have been made in the assessments, and he asked the Council to infer from that, that appeals are not conducted in a fair and proper manner. I submit that two or three cases or even five will not justify any tribunal to determine whether appeals are conducted fairly or not. If the public are under the impression that they have only to appeal to get their assessments reduced, how is it that the proportion of appeals is so limited? That one fact goes to the root of my hon. friend's argument. It shows that there is no such belief in the minds of the people. The belief is quite the other way, viz., that the appellate benches will not admit appeals unless there is real ground of complaint. The method proposed by my hon. friend is no doubt a very convenient one as far as the executive officers of the municipality are concerned; one officer assesses, another deals with objections, and then the appellant is driven to the Small Cause Court. The annoyance and trouble and expense of litigating in that Court are so great that in many cases the parties will be deterred from instituting appeals. I am sure the Council will not in a matter of this kind, after passing a very stringent clause as to the assessment of house property, place people in a position not to be able to obtain justice. It is all very well for my hon. friend to say that that will be the best course. He said there will be a continuity of policy. We have had instances when the Corporation has been either plaintiff or defendant in the Small Cause Court. In one case it was a question of taking out a license, and some very strong remarks were made by the presiding Judge, and there was another case where another Judge made similar remarks. Therefore the result will depend very much upon whether the case will always come before a particular Judge before you can say that there will be a continuity of principle. If the Commissioners are unfit to be trusted to hear these appeals, they are not fit to be trusted with the administration of the affairs of the town. My contention is that the executive officer having done his duty, the hearing of appeals should be left to the Commissioners. Ordinarily the number of Commissioners who sit to hear appeals is five, and not three. Five Commissioners are chosen by ballot, and that is done because it was said that if a person knows beforehand who are to hear his appeal, probably the Commissioners who are going to sit will be subjected to the annoyance of receiving personal solicitations from the appellant. That rule was therefore established and is in force now. It seems to me that of all persons the persons

who have to deal with these appeals are the very persons who, by virtue of their position, are far better able to judge of the value of property than any Judge of the Small Cause Court. If the theory is that they will not do justice, then I say that the elective system should not be retained in Calcutta. If there is this fear lurking in my hon. friend's mind, he should be the last person to advocate the elective system. Large sums of money are expended on the advice of the Commissioners for the benefit of the town, and yet these persons are considered by my hon. friend not fit to decide whether the value of a particular property is Rs. 5,000 or Rs. 50,000. My deliberate opinion, formed from an extensive and intimate knowledge of the value of house property in the town, is that the Commissioners are the best persons to decide assessment appeals. Under these circumstances, I say that the adoption of my hon. friend's amendment will be a gross injustice to the rate-payers of the town, and I hope the Council will, at any rate, not alter the existing law in this respect. If the report of Nundolall Bose's case is carefully read, it will be seen that it does not help my hon. friend's contention. The Judges there came to the conclusion that the valuation on which the assessment was made is wrong, and therefore they allowed the appeal. Therefore there is no decision of any Court which will justify the Council in taking this matter out of the hands of the Commissioners. They are responsible for the well-being of the town, and I cannot understand why they should not be entrusted with the assessment of house property. I can understand the principle of their supersession under the control section of the Bill, but I cannot understand their supersession in the matter of hearing assessment appeals.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON's motion that section 135 of the Bill be omitted, being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 8.	*Noes* 5.
The Hon. H. Pratt.	The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.
The Hon. C. H. Moore.	The Hon. Mahendra Lal Sircar.
The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.	The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.
The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
The Hon. T. T. Allen.	His Honor the President.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.	
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.	
The Hon. the Advocate-General.	

So the Motion was carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON's motion that, for section 136, the following be substituted:—

"Any person who is dissatisfied with a valuation made under this Chapter shall, in the case of houses, within fifteen days after the publication of the notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-two, or after receipt of the notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-three when such notice is received after the publication of the notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-two, and in the case of bustee or other land within fifteen days after the receipt of the special notice referred to in section one hundred and thirty-four, deliver at the office of the Commissioners a notice in writing stating the grounds of his objection."

was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON's motion that, after section 136, the following new section be inserted:—

"136A. All such objections shall be entered in a register to be maintained for the purpose, and on receipt of any objection, notice shall be given to the objector of a day and place when his objection will be investigated.

"On the day and place notified, the Chairman or Vice-Chairman (if the case is referred to him by the Chairman) shall hear the objection in the presence of the objector if he shall appear, or the Chairman or Vice-Chairman may, for reasonable cause, adjourn the investigation. When the objection has been determined, the order passed shall be recorded in the register of objections, together with the date of such order."

was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON's motion that, for section 137, the following be substituted:—

"Any person dissatisfied with the orders passed on his objection may appeal to the Court of Small Causes having jurisdiction in the place where the house, land, or bustee land

is situated. Such appeal shall be presented to the Court of Small Causes within thirty days [illegible] the decision of the objection under section one hundred and thirty-six A, and shall be accompanied with an extract from the register of objections containing the order objected to. No appeal shall be admitted unless an objection has first been taken under section one hundred and thirty-six."

was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON's motion that, in section 138, for the words "two last preceding sections" the words "last preceding section" be substituted, was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that section 151 be omitted.

He said:—This provision is not in the existing law. The water-supply to the shipping is working satisfactorily and no friction has arisen, and I do not see why a section of this sort fixing a maximum charge of Rs. 5 per thousand gallons should be introduced when Rs. 8 per thousand gallons is now charged without complaint. At present the Port Commissioners get all the water they want, ships are supplied with water, and I am not aware that any difficulty has arisen.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—This section was inserted in the interests of the Port Commissioners. At present we charge Rs. 8 per thousand gallons, but the price is no doubt excessive when the cost of the water is from 2 to 2½ annas per thousand gallons, although the cost of putting it on board is something considerable. I think on the whole Rs. 5 per thousand gallons is really a very liberal allowance.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—My argument is that no necessity has been shown for the introduction of such a provision. It is a notorious fact that one-third of the town has not yet been piped, and it might seem invidious to make legal provision for the supply of water to the shipping when a large proportion of those who have contributed to the expense of the water-supply have not yet been supplied. Charity begins at home, and I think that matters of this kind ought to be left to the discretion of the Commissioners.

The motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The Council was adjourned to Wednesday, the 18th April, 1888.

H. A. D. PHILLIPS,

for Asst. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal,
Legislative Department.

CALCUTTA;
The 1st May, 1888.

RULES FOR THE GRANT OF LICENSES TO PROSPECT FOR METALS ON GOVERNMENT WASTE LAND.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT—LAND REVENUE.

Calcutta, the 26th April, 1888.

RESOLUTION.

READ—

Letter No. 187TP—G, dated the 25th October, 1886, from the Conservator of Forests, Bengal.

Endorsement No. 199TP—G, dated 5th November, 1886, from the Conservator of Forests, Bengal, with enclosures.

This Government's endorsement to the Board of Revenue, L.P., No. 2241—839LR, dated 19th November, 1886.

Letter No. 263A, dated 6th April, 1887, from the Board of Revenue, L.P., with enclosure.

Letter No. 150A, dated 2nd March, 1887, from the Board of Revenue, L.P., with enclosure.

This Government's letter to the Board of Revenue, L.P., No. 1060—421LR, dated 7th April, 1887.

This Government's letter to the Board of Revenue, L.P., No. 43T—R, dated 17th June, 1887.

Endorsement from the Board of Revenue, L.P., No. 492A, dated 19th July, 1887, with enclosure.

Letter from the Board of Revenue, L.P., No. 157A, dated 13th February, 1888, with enclosures.

Read also—

The rules of the Madras Government for the grant of licenses to prospect for gold or other metals on Government waste land, published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* under order No. 126 of 1st February, 1882.

It has been brought to the notice of the Bengal Government that great delay occurs in the disposal of the applications occasionally made for leave to prospect for minerals on Government estates, as local officers think it necessary to refer every case of the kind for special instructions, no general rules having been prescribed for their guidance; and, in the absence of any recognised policy, even the superior revenue authorities find much difficulty in issuing orders with the promptness which in such cases is of the greatest consequence. After consultation with the Board of Revenue and the officers of the Chota Nagpore Division, the Lieutenant-Governor is pleased to prescribe the following rules to be in force for two years, at the end of which period the matter will be reconsidered :—

1. Persons desirous of obtaining the exclusive privilege to search for metals on Government waste land should apply to the Collector or Deputy Commissioner of the District, specifying distinctly the situation of the land within which it is proposed to search, and its boundaries as accurately as possible, together with its estimated area. Every application should be accompanied by a rough sketch of the tract applied for, which must be a compact block not ordinarily exceeding half a square mile. Applications will be dealt with in order of receipt by the Collector or Deputy Commissioner. On an application being accepted by the Collector or Deputy Commissioner, a license to search for metals will be granted on the following conditions :—

(1). That the license shall be in force for a term of six months, and shall be available for purposes of prospecting only, and shall not justify mining proper.

(2). That a rent of one rupee per acre, or such lower amount as the Collector or Deputy Commissioner shall find to be adequate, shall be payable by the licensee in advance on the date of the grant of the license.

(3). That if the licensee satisfies the Collector or Deputy Commissioner that he has effectually explored the tract, he shall have the preferential right to a mining lease on such terms as Government may consider suitable.

(4). If the licensee shall have caused any injury by digging pits or otherwise to any land in excess of the extent for which he can obtain a mining lease, he shall pay to Government as compensation such sum as shall be required to repair the damage done; provided, however, that the amount so payable shall not exceed twenty-five times the assessment on the portion of the area affected, if assessed, or of the assessment which the lands would bear if they were rated in the same way as similar assessed lands in the neighbourhood.

(5). That in all questions or differences of opinion in regard to the observance or non-observance of the conditions of this license, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal shall be the arbiter, and his decision shall be final.

2. Without the written permission of the Collector or Deputy Commissioner previously obtained, the land applied for must not be entered upon, nor operations commenced.

3. Immediately on receipt of an application for permission to search for metals in a specified tract of country, the Collector or Deputy Commissioner shall ascertain whether the land is at the disposal of Government, and whether there is any objection to the grant of the permission sought, by reason of the land being required for public purposes, or on any other ground.

4. If no such objection is known to exist, the Collector or Deputy Commissioner will accept the application, and will, without loss of time, place the land in the possession of the applicant and grant him a license in the form prescribed below.

5. A register of applications to search for metals shall be kept in the Collector's or Deputy Commissioner's office in English in the following form:—

Register of Applications for permission to search for Metals.

Number.	Date of application.	Name and residence of applicant.	Situation of the land, i.e., district, subdivision, village, &c.	Boundaries of the land.	Estimated extent.	Date of license.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8

NOTE.—In the Remark column it should be stated whether the application is for permission to search for gold or other metals, and whether a mining lease was eventually granted, reference being made in such cases to the number of such lease in the register.

Form of License to search for Metals.

Whereas A.B. of has applied to the Collector / Deputy Commissioner of acting for and on behalf of the Right Honorable the Secretary of State for India in Council, for the grant to him the said A. B. of the full and exclusive license and authority to search for metals in, under, and throughout the tract of Government land measuring about acres in extent and particularly described in the schedule hereunder written; and whereas the said A.B. has paid to the said Collector / Deputy Commissioner acting as aforesaid the sum of Rs. being rent at the rate of per acre of the said tract of land for such full and exclusive license and authority; now these presents witness that the said Secretary of State in Council in consideration of the said sum of Rs. so paid by the said A.B., as aforesaid, hereby gives and grants to the said A.B. full and exclusive license and authority to enter upon and to search for metals for the period of six calendar months in, under, and throughout the said tract of land upon the following terms, that is to say,

1. That the said A.B. forthwith commences and during the aforesaid term continues to explore the said lands and search for metals therein in a skilful and workmanlike manner.

2. That if the said A.B. shall have caused any injury by digging pits or otherwise to any land in excess of the extent for which he can obtain a mining lease, he shall pay to the Government of Bengal as compensation such sum as shall be required to repair the damage done; provided, however, that the amount so payable shall not exceed twenty-five times the assessment on the portion of the said lands so damaged, if assessed, or of the assessment which such lands would bear if they were rated in the same way as similar assessed lands in the neighbourhood.

3. That in all questions or differences of opinion on points connected with this license the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal for the time being shall be the arbiter and his decision shall be final. This license shall be available for prospecting purposes only and shall not justify mining proper. Dated the day of 18 .

Schedule.

District.	Subdivision.	Village.	Boundaries.	Estimated extent.
1	2	3	4	5

ORDER.—Ordered that this Resolution be published in the *Calcutta Gazette*, and that copies of it be forwarded to the Board of Revenue, Lower Provinces, and all Commissioners of Divisions and District Officers.

By order of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal,

P. NOLAN,

Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

REPORT ON THE TORNADO WHICH VISITED DACCA ON THE 7th APRIL 1888.

No. 877J, dated Dacca, the 27th April 1888.

From—W. R. LARMINIE, Esq., Commissioner of the Dacca Division,
To—The Chief Secretary to the Government of Bengal.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith a copy of the Magistrate of Dacca's report on the tornado which visited Dacca on the 7th April last.

2. Although at the time within a few hundred yards of the centre of the storm, I did not observe any special violence, but noticed the peculiar noise as of a number of trains. I was not aware, till next morning, that any great damage had been done.

3. As Dr. Crombie has prepared a scientific account of the tornado, it is unnecessary for me to enter into any details as far as that branch of the subject is concerned.

4. The damage done to life and property has been stated by the Magistrate, and I am satisfied that he has not over-estimated it. I have myself gone over the greater part of the area which suffered; and if I had not done so, would have found it difficult to credit the completeness of the damage done.

5. Great credit is due to Mr. Clark and his subordinates for their prompt and continued exertions; also to Mr. S. J. Sarkies, Secretary to the Municipality.

6. The liberality displayed by the Nawab in particular, and the other gentlemen named, in regard to the relief of the sufferers, deserves special notice. The list has since been increased by the name of Baboo Protab Chandra Banerjea, who has subscribed Rs. 500.

7. Every care is being taken that the money at our disposal is being judiciously distributed.

No. 835, dated Dacca, the 25th April 1888.

From—L. HARE, Esq., Offg. Magistrate of Dacca,
To—The Commissioner of the Dacca Division.

I HAVE the honour to submit a formal report upon the recent tornado, and to furnish a statement showing the damage it caused.

2. On the night of Saturday, the 7th April, there was to all appearance only the signs of an ordinary storm. I hurried home from polo before the game was ended at about 6-20, and got home just as the storm began.

At about 7 o'clock P.M. the tornado struck the town, and so sudden was its arrival, and so partial the course it took, that those outside its path were hardly aware of anything unusual.

3. On the night of Saturday it was clear that very much damage had been done, but it was not until Sunday morning that anything like a full idea could be formed of the enormous extent of the damage. At first I was of opinion that there had only been in a part of the town a somewhat more severe storm of wind than I had experienced in my own house, and that it was only thatched houses and badly constructed kutcha-pucca houses which had suffered. But subsequent examination showed that even fairly well built pucca houses, such as the Nawab's house, had been wrecked by the tornado.

4. The tornado appears to have entered the town on the north-west extremity and to have followed the river bank for some distance, and turned in towards the lunatic asylum, a bit of the wall of which was thrown down. It then turned back to the river, which it crossed into Keranigunge, the suburb on the opposite bank of the river to Dacca. Here it did great damage to the boats moored to the banks. It then went inland for some two or three hundred yards. Then it stopped and turned at right angles to its former course, going straight for the Nawab's Ahsun Munzil. Here, and close behind this building, the greatest havoc was committed. After travelling through Sankari Bazar, the tornado disappeared apparently between the College and the Cutcheries.

5. Dr. Crombie, Civil Surgeon, has written a detailed account of the tornado, which has been submitted to Mr. Pedlar, who is preparing a scientific account of the tornado for the Lieutenant-Governor, and it is not necessary to give any further description of the storm.

6. All along its track houses were wrecked and unroofed, and in many places, as I have stated, pucca buildings were demolished. If I had not seen it, I would not have believed it possible that such a complete wreck could have been caused by the wind.

The damage seems to have been all done in some two or three minutes, and was not the result of a continually increasing pressure of wind, but apparently of a sudden, irresistible and overwhelming force of wind.

7. As to the damage done, as far as can be ascertained 118 persons were killed by the fall of houses and flying bricks and bamboos, or were drowned. It is probable that more were drowned than there were bodies recovered, and it is impossible to say how many were really drowned, as many of the boats destroyed had only recently arrived and were manned by foreigners.

Of wounded people, as many as 1,200 were counted, and of these 222 were seriously wounded and treated in hospital. Besides the attendance given at the hospital, 248 persons were treated in their own homes. The Civil Surgeon, Dr. Crombie, and the Assistant Surgeons (especially Mr. Kelly) were indefatigable in their exertions to help the wounded. Additional Hospital Assistants were also employed to visit people at their homes.

8. When on Sunday as the ruins began to be cleared and more and more bodies were found and the wounded began to pour into the hospital, something like a panic occurred for a short time, and there was some difficulty in keeping the hospital clear of the crowd.

9. The damage done to property has been estimated at Rs. 6,78,428; nine pucca houses were completely demolished and 148 partially so. Of cutcha houses 3,518 were completely and 61 partially destroyed, and 121 boats were wrecked. Amongst the latter was the District Superintendent of Police's Government steamer *Marion*, which was sunk.

10. The police behaved very well and worked hard throughout Saturday night and Sunday in maintaining order in the excitement which prevailed, and in guarding the large amount of property which was exposed.

No cases of theft in connection with this calamity have been reported. They also did much useful work in rescuing buried persons and forwarding wounded persons to the hospital. Mr. Clark, District Superintendent, worked most admirably. He specially mentions the assistance rendered by Inspector Abhoy Charn Ghose, who has also since given me much help.

11. The streets, many of which were wholly or partially blocked by debris, were speedily cleared by the exertions of Mr. S. J. Sarkies, Secretary to the Municipal Committee, who superintended and directed the municipal coolies.

12. For the relief of those who have suffered by the calamity, the Nawab has generously given you Rs. 10,000, and Rs. 5,000 was subscribed by Baboo Raghu Nath Das, Rs. 1,000 by Baboo Sonatun Das, and Rs. 500 by Baboo Sri Nath Roy. The generosity of the Nawab is the more marked, inasmuch as he is one of the principal sufferers by the storm.

13. Enquiries have been steadily conducted and are still being conducted to ascertain who of the many sufferers from the tornado should be relieved. Already Rs. 5,670 have been distributed, and further sums are being distributed daily.

14. Very shortly after the tornado visited Dacca, a part of the Munshiganj sub-division was visited by a tornado, either the same or another. The damage done by this was very severe, and it is at present reported that 66 deaths occurred, and that 128 persons were wounded. This tornado passed for a great part through open country, and did comparatively little harm to property, though, where it did strike houses, it carried them away more completely than in the crowded city of Dacca.

15. Medical assistance was at once sent to the villages which had suffered, and Rs. 1,000 has been put at the disposal of the Sub-divisional Officer from your relief fund for the assistance of those who require it.

Statement showing the nature of damage done by the Tornado of the 7th April 1888 in the City of Dacca and Keranigunge Station.

STATIONS.	Number of pucca houses completely demolished.	Number of pucca houses partially demolished.	Number of cutcha houses completely demolished.	Number of cutcha houses partially demolished.	Number of boats destroyed.	Estimated value.	Number of persons killed.	Number of persons wounded and treated in hospital.	Number of persons died in hospital up to 16th instant.	Number of wounded persons attended in private houses by Government doctors.	Total number of persons wounded, including those in columns 9, 10 and 11.	REMARKS.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
						Rs.						
Town	5	88	114	61	25	5,53,220	66	102	7	248	1,200	(a) I think this is very fair estimate. (b) Probably 20 more than those we killed. (c) Some five more are likely to die. (d) These figures do not include any but fairly severe wounds.
Lalbagh	4	34	3,404	.....	30	68,360						
Keranigunge ...	.....	1	420	.....	66	26,644	32	60	4			
Total ...	9	148	3,518	61	121	6,78,428 (a)	118(b)	222	11(c)	248	1,200(d)	

E. N. W. PARTRIDGE,
For District Supdt. of Police.

Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the Crops.

Statement showing Rainfall, Weather, and State and Prospects of the crops in the different districts of Bengal, as reported to Government during the week ending the 28th April 1888.

No.	District and date of return	Rainfall at Sudder Stations in inches.	Character of the weather and state and prospects of the crops
	BENGAL.		
	Western Districts.		
	BURDWAN DIVS.		
1	Burdwan Apl 28, '88	0·23	Weather—cloudy and stormy. Rain has done much good to standing crops. Land is being ploughed. Rice selling at 22 seers per rupee.
	Culna ...	0·80	
	Cutwa ...	1·89	
	Raneegunge ...	1·86	
2	Bankoora „ 28, '88	1·23	Weather—cool and cloudy. Rain beneficial to cultivation of early rice. Lands are being prepared for *aus* and *telko* paddy. Indigo, *til* and cotton doing well. Planting of sugarcane proceeds. Prices stationary.
3	Beerbhoom „ 28, '88	1·16	Sky overcast. Occasional storms and frequent showers. Cool. Rain has enabled cultivators to commence ploughing and planting sugarcane, and has done good to mangoes and vegetation generally.
	Rampur Haut ...	0·82	
4	Midnapur „ 28, '88	2·58	More or less rain in the evenings during the week. Rain has cooled the air and has been very useful, as water-supply was failing. Fields are being ploughed. Outturn of *boro* fairly good.
5	Hooghly „ 28, '88	1·42	Weather—stormy. Good rain has now fallen and agricultural operations have been resumed.
	Serampur ...	0·46	
	Jehanabad ...	2·13	
	Howrah „ 28, '88	2·84	Stormy evenings. State and prospects of crops good.
	Oolooberiah ...	1·04	
	Central Districts.		
	PRESIDENCY DIVS.		
6	24-Pergns. Apl 28, '88	3·35	Weather—rainy. Winds variable. No crops on the ground except sugarcane, which is doing well. Ploughing continues. Prospects favourable.
7	Nuddea „ 28, '88	1·18	General rain. Weather cooler; very unsettled and stormy. Continual rain during the week retarded cultivation. Prospects considerably improved. *Aus* sowings have germinated well.
	Kooshtea ...	3·77	
	Meherpur ...	2·61	
	Chooadanga ...	3·15	
	Ranaghat ...	1·75	
8	Khoolna „ 28, '88	2·25	Weather—overcast; wind and thunder-showers since 22nd. Temperature fallen. The rain is desirable for cultivation.
9	Jessore „ 28, '88	3·32	Weather—rainy and cloudy. Rain has benefited cultivation of early rice and indigo.
	Jhenidah ...	4·16	
	Magurah ...	3·31	
	Narail ...	2·17	
	Bongong ...	1·27	
10	Moorshedabad „ 28, '88	1·31	Weather—cool and cloudy. Timely rain has done much good to early rice and indigo. Ploughing for *aus* and *aman* rice commenced.
	Kandi ...	1·84	
	Lalbag ...	1·16	
	Jungipur ...	0·68	
	RAJSHAHYE DIVS.		
11	Dinagepur Apl. 28, '88	5·70	Weather—stormy during early part of week, now clear with sunshine. Rain has done much good to crops.
	Thakurgaon ...	3·85	
12	Rajshahye „ 28, '88	1·29	Weather—still cool. Quite cold up to 25th instant. Easterly wind. Condition of *til*, sugarcane, jute and *boro* paddy good. Rain has benefited sowing of *aman* and *aus*, but more wanted.
	Nattore ...	2·20	
	Newgong ...	0·44	
13	Rungpur „ 28, '88	4·15	Prospects of *aus* paddy and jute appear to be very good, as plentiful rain has fallen, and the fine weather since is favourable to weeding.
	Kurigram ...	1·28	
	Gaibanda ...	4·43	
	Nilphamari ...	4·92	
14	Bogra „ 28, '88	2·00	Weather—cool with wind and rain. Prospects of crops good. Advantage taken of rain for ploughing and early sowings.
	Sherpur ...	2·96	
	Nowkhilla ...	2·90	
	Pubna „ 28, '88	5·42	Weather—stormy and very cool. State and prospects of crops continue good.
	Serajgunge ...	4·99	
16	Darjeeling „ 28, '88	1·60	Heavy passing showers. State and prospects of crops good.
17	Julpigoree „ 28, '88	3·70	Weather—cool and pleasant. Heavy showers on the 22nd, 24th and 26th. Sowing of *bhadoi* continues. Rain has improved prospects. Prices stationary.
	Eastern Districts.		
	DACCA DIVISION.		
18	Dacca Apl. 28, '88	5·56	Weather—cloudy and stormy with rain. *Boro* paddy is being harvested. Cutting of *cheena* and *kaon* nearly completed. *Aman* and *aus* paddy are being sown, but excessive rain has to certain extent retarded ploughing and sowing.
	Manickgunge ...	4·43	
	Manohigunge ...	4·26	
	Naraingunge ...	7·69	
19	Furreedpur „ 28, '88	4·15	Weather—stormy. Good rain has fallen, and state and prospects of crops are good.
	Goalundo ...	9·75	
	Madaripur ...	2·74	
20	Backergunge „ 27, '88	2·08	High wind with occasional rain. *Rabi* crops almost harvested; outturn fair. Ground is being prepared for *aus* paddy.
	Bhola ...	0·84	
	Betaukhali ...	1·24	
	Perozepur ...	2·07	
	Mymensingh „ 27, '88	4·13	Weather—cool. Rain all over the district. Prospects of crops good. Rain has done much good.
	Jamalpur ...	0·52	
	Kishoregunge ...	2·35	
	Atia ...	1·07	
	Netrokona ...	2·05	

No.	District and date of return.		Rainfall at Sudder Station in inches.	Character of the weather and state and prospects of the crops.
BENGAL—*concluded.*				
	Eastern Districts—concld.			
Chittagong Divs. 22	Chittagong	...	...	Report not received.
23	Noakholly	„ 27, '88	3·58	Weather—cloudy and stormy. Harvesting of *rabbi* crops almost complete. Sowing of *aus* continues.
	Feany	...	3·79	
24	Tipperah	„ 26, '88	4·53	Weather—very cool for the time of the year. Rain has fallen, and cultivation is in full swing. Jute has been sown almost completely. Prospects good. A little break in the rain would be beneficial.
	Brahmunbariah		6·51	
	Chandpur	...	1·14	
25	Chittagong Hill Tracts.	„ 24, '88	1·67	Weather—rainy during first part of week, with strong rotatory storms. Sowing in *jums* on hillsides. Sugarcane is being planted.
	Hill Tipperah	„ 25, '88	8·20	Weather hot and stormy with copious showers of rain. Planting of sugarcane has commenced. *Jums* are being cultivated.
BEHAR.				
Patna Divs. 26	Patna	Apl. 28, '88	Nil	Weather—nights somewhat cool during the latter part of the week. Threshing of *rabbi* crops still going on; a fair outturn expected. Fields are being prepared for sowing *cheena*. Mango crop has suffered some damage owing to strong west wind. Prices of food-grains almost stationary.
27	Gya	„ 28, '88	Nil	Weather—very hot. Threshing of *rabbi* nearly finished. Sugarcane being irrigated. Opium weighments finished.
28	Shahabad	„ 28, '88	Nil	Weather—seasonable; east wind prevails. Threshing of *rabbi* crops nearly over. Sugarcane and *cheena* promise well.
29	Durbhunga	„ 28, '88	0·80	Weather—cloudy with east wind. Rain has much benefited *moong* and *dhan*. Indigo doing well. Prices remain stationary.
30	Mozufferpur	„ 28, '88	0·56	Strong east winds. Rain has been beneficial to *moong* and *cheena*, though some damage was done to these crops in Sitamarhi by hail. Threshing of *rabbi* crops progressing.
	Sitamarhi	...	2·70	
	Hajeepur	...	Nil	
31	Sarun	„ 28, '88	Nil	Weather—seasonable. Indigo continues to do well. Fields are being prepared for *bhadoi* and paddy. *Cheena* and sugarcane fields are being irrigated.
32	Champaran	„ 28, '88	0·95	Weather—moderately cool with east wind. Threshing of *rabbi* crops finished. *Bhadoi* and *aghani* sowings going on. Opium weighments progressing. Rainfall of the week has very much benefited *cheena* and indigo, and other standing crops.
Bhagulpore Divs. 33	Monghyr	Apl. 28, '88	Nil	Weather—days hot and sultry with high east wind, nights cool. *Rabbi* threshing almost completed. Lands are being prepared for *bhadoi* crops.
	Jamui	...	0·32	
34	Bhagulpur	„ 28, '88	0·65	Weather—cool with strong east wind. Rain has benefited early sowings of *jute* and *moong*. It will bring on indigo and water cultivation. Mango crop poor and damaged by hail. Sugarcane doing well.
	Madhupur	...	2·12	
	Soopool	...	1·22	
35	Purneah	„ 28, '88	2·43	Weather—cool with easterly winds. All crops have benefited by the rain which has been well distributed.
	Kishengunge	...	10·48	
	Arrareah	...	3·93	
36	Maldah	„ 28, '88	0·97	Weather—cool and cloudy. Harvesting of *boro* paddy begun. Rain has done some good to standing crops, but more wanted for sowings of *bhadoi* paddy and for preparing lands for winter rice. Common rice is selling at an average of 23½ seers per rupee.
	Chanchal		0·51	
	Gazole	...	0·78	
	Sultigunge	...	0·4	
37	Sonthal Pergs.	„ 28, '88	0·31	East winds with rain. Weather cool. *Boro dhan* doing well. More rain wanted for ploughing and for sugarcane.
	Deoghur	...	0·22	
	Godda	...	0·24	
	Pakour	...	0·28	
	Rajmehal	...	0·14	
ORISSA.				
Orissa Divs. 38	Cuttack	Apl. 27, '88	Nil	Weather—mornings cool; evenings cool with high winds; middays extremely hot. High winds prevailing from south-east. Ploughing for *bodi* and *sarad* rice stopped for want of rain. Reaping of *dalua* rice going on. Mango ripening. Common rice is sold at 21 seers per rupee in town.
39	Pooree	„ 26, '88	Nil	Weather—seasonable with high winds. Land is being ploughed for *sarad* crop. *Dalua* crop is being harvested. Common rice 23 seers 7 chittacks per rupee in the Sudder sub-division, and 23 seers 6 chittacks in the Khoorda sub-division.
	Khoorda	...	Nil	
40	Balasore	„ 27, '88	1·11	Weather—stormy. Rain has been very beneficial in the north of the district. More rain wanted for cultivation in the Bhadrack sub-division.
CHOTA NAGPORE.				
	South-West Frontier Agency.			
Chota Nagpore Divs. 41	Hazaribagh	Apl. 27, '88	Nil	Weather—rather unsettled and much cooler latterly. Sugarcane doing well. Mango promising. No other crops.
42	Lohardugga	„ 28, '88	Nil	Weather—cloudy, but no rain. No standing crops to report on. Prices steady.
43	Singbhoom	„ 27, '88	Nil	Weather—very hot and cloudy at times. Sugarcane doing well. No other crops to report on.
44	Manbhoom	„ 28, '88	0·52	Weather—cool and cloudy. Rain has done good. Fields are being ploughed up. Outturn of *mohua* and mango good.
	Govindpur	...	0·5	

Published for general information.

CALCUTTA, REVENUE DEPT.;
The 1st May 1888.

P. NOLAN,
Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Meteorological Observations taken at the Alipore Observatory from 22nd to 28th April 1888.

Month.	Date.	Maximum in sun.	Number of hours bright sunshine.	Mean pressure barometer at 32° Fahr.	Temperature. Mean.	Temperature. Maximum.	Temperature. Range.	Temperature. Minimum.	Hygrometry. Mean wet bulb.	Hygrometry. Vapour tension.	Hygrometry. Dew point.	Hygrometry. Humidity.	Wind. Prevailing direction.	Wind. Miles recorded.	Rain.	Weather.
1888.		°		Inches.	°	°	°	°	°	Inches	°	%			Inches	
April	22nd	150·4	7·4	29·816	84·2	94·4	21·9	72·5	76·9	0·786	72·0	68	S and SSW ...	135	Nil.	Partially cloudy.
"	23rd	149·6	7·0	·726	86·3	94·1	15·4	78·7	79·1	·901	76·1	73	S and SSW ...	236	"	Chiefly cloudy.
"	24th	153·0	10·1	·696	86·3	93·1	16·7	76·4	79·3	·908	76·3	73	S, SSE and SSW ...	237	"	Chiefly cloudy.
"	25th	137·8	2·5	·651	80·1	87·1	6·9	80·2	75·5	·829	73·6	80	SSE, ESE & variable	230	0·83	Chiefly cloudy c, g, p, t, <
"	26th	145·7	2·0	·723	77·7	86·8	20·1	66·4	75·0	·836	73·8	88	SSE and variable ...	137	1·16	Chiefly cloudy c, g, t, p.
"	27th	148·6	9·4	·691	81·7	90·4	18·9	72·2	77·8	·900	76·1	83	S and SSW ...	152	0·91	Chiefly cloudy t, d, <
"	28th	151·8	8·3	·660	82·9	91·6	19·5	72·1	78·6	·927	76·0	82	S and SSW ...	113	3·29	Chiefly cloudy c, g, p, t, K

	Inches.
The mean pressure of the seven days	29·714
The average pressure of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	29·730
	Hours.
The total number of hours of bright sunshine	47·0
The maximum possible number of hours of sunshine	89·8
	°
The mean temperature of the seven days	82·7
The average temperature of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	84·5
The extreme variation of temperature	28·0
The maximum temperature	91·4
	Miles.
The highest velocity of the wind in one hour	17
	lbs.
The highest pressure of wind on one square foot	12
	%
The mean relative humidity	78
The average relative humidity of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office	72
	Inches.
The total fall of rain from 22nd to 28th April 1888	3·32
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	0·89
The total fall from 1st January to 28th April 1888	8·21
The average fall of the corresponding period for 24 years, S. G.'s Office ...	4·63

The mean pressure, temperature, &c., are deduced from the traces of the Barograph and Thermograph.

The maximum and minimum temperatures are obtained from self-registering thermometers. All the thermometers are verified, and the readings have been corrected to a standard constructed and verified at the Kew Observatory. They are exposed under a thatched shed open at the sides, and are suspended four feet above the ground.

The barometer readings are corrected approximately to those of the standard Newman's No. 86, formerly at the Surveyor-General's Office.

The hygrometric elements are obtained from Tables III, IV, and V of the official tables computed in the Meteorological Office, and based on Regnault's modifications of August's formula.

The directions and the movement of the wind are taken from the trace of a Beckley's anemograph.

The mouth of the rain-gauge is one foot above the ground.

o overcast, g gloomy, p passing temporary showers, t thunder, d drizzling rain, < lightning, K thunderstorm.

ALEX. PEDLER,
For Offg. Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, GOVT. OF INDIA;
Calcutta, the 30th April 1888.

Meteorological Report of the Province of Bengal

STATION OBSERVATIONS.

Meteorological Division	District	Representative station	Air pressure: Mean barometric height, 10 A.M.	Air pressure: Mean reduced to sea-level	Air pressure: Variation from mean.	Wind: Prevailing direction.	Wind: Mean wind velocity.	Temperature: Highest during week.	Date.	Lowest during week.	Date.	Mean maximum temperature.	Mean minimum temperature of week.	Mean daily temperature of week.	Variation from normal mean of week.	Mean 10 A.M. temperature.
Orissa.	Pooree	Pooree														
		Gopalpore	29·791	29·841	−·007	S.SSW	448·4	84·7	23rd Apl.	76·8	22nd Apl.	81·1	77·9	81·0	−1·2	82·4
		False Point	29·820	29·842	−·002	SSW	429·8	86·5	25th, 27th, Apl.	74·6	22nd "	81·7	78·8	83·3	−1·8	83·1
	Cuttack	Cuttack	29·732	29·802	−·003	SW	171·8	107·6	26th "	76·3	22nd "	103·8	79·5	91·7	+1·1	93·3
	Balasore	Balasore	29·751	29·810	−·007	SSW	271·9	105·5	21st "	70·9	22nd "	86·4	75·9	87·2	−1·2	86·4
South-West Bengal.	South-West Midnapore, South 24-Parganas	Saugor Island	29·799	29·825	−·006	S	67·8	91·2	25th "	72·0	22nd "	83·9	79·5	84·7	−0·4	84·9
	Midnapore	Midnapore	29·661	29·816	+·016	S	172·1	105·8	22nd "	67·8	26th "	100·8	75·3	88·1	−2·0	88·4
	24-Parganas, Howrah, Hooghly	Calcutta	29·797	29·812	−·004	SSW	109·9	96·0	22nd "	69·8	30th "	91·6	75·1	83·4	−2·6	86·1
	Burdwan	Burdwan	29·791	29·801	−·003	S	135·4	101·7	24th "	71·6	24th "	96·9	76·3	85·6	−2·0	85·1
	Bankoora	Bankoora	29·540	—		Southerly	174·9	107·6	25th "	67·8	26th "	100·8	74·2	87·5	—	86·9
	Beerbhoom, West Burdwan	Bolpore	29·671	29·779	+·015	NE	145·1	105·0	24th "	69·9	30th "	98·4	75·4	86·4	−3·6	86·4
	Moorshedabad	Berhampore	29·798	29·838	+·030	E	151·2	97·2	21st "	61·2	22nd "	84·9	69·2	79·1	−1·4	79·0
	Nuddea	Krishnaghur	29·764	29·800		ESE	177·0	103·9	24th "	69·3	22nd "	91·8	71·7	81·7	—	81·4
	Jessore, Khoolna	Jessore	29·801	29·864	−·011	South-Easterly	170·4	95·8	21st "	65·1	22nd "	89·7	71·1	80·4	−4·1	80·1
East Bengal.	Chittagong	Chittagong	29·917	29·895	−·021	Variable	110·1	87·0	21st "	67·0	21st "	83·9	70·5	76·1	−5·4	80·0
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Demagiri					Observations not received.									
	Backergunge	Barisal	29·824	29·891	+·006	S	135·0	91·3	21st Apl.	67·0	24th "	86·1	70·3	78·4	−3·6	81·1
	Noakholly	Noakholly	29·816	29·880	+·012	SE	182·2	85·0*	21st "	66·4	21st "	81·4*	70·0*	77·7*	−0·9*	-
	Furreedpore	Furreedpore	29·845	29·879	+·007	South Easterly	139·0	91·5	21st "	66·0	20th "	85·3	69·1	77·4	−6·7	78·7
	Dacca	Dacca	29·843	29·872	+·006	ESE	186·2	96·1	21st "	66·0	22nd & 27th Apl.	86·5	66·2	77·4	−7·9	80·1
	Comillah	Comillah	29·802	29·838	+·005	SE	137·3	89·0	27th "	61·0	21st "	85·9	67·6	76·8	−5·6	80·2
	Mymensingh	Mymensingh	29·820	29·885	+·007	ESE	174·5	89·6	21st "	65·6	20th "	84·0	67·0	75·8	−7·1	77·6
North Bengal.	Bogra	Bogra	29·761	29·825		E	96·5	91·9	21st "	67·9	21st "	86·8	65·1	75·6	—	77·6
	Pubna	Serajgunge	29·812	29·850	+·012	South-Easterly	72·4	91·0	21st "	61·4	22nd "	84·4	67·9	77·1	−0·7	78·1
	Rajshahye	Rampore Beauleah	29·763	29·8·4	+·006	SE	124·9	94·3	21st "	62·9	27th "	85·8	65·6	75·4	−10·2	78·1
	Maldah	Maldah	29·757	—		NE	135·0	89·1	21st "	67·3	24th "	87·1	69·8	78·5	—	78·7
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	29·774	29·857	+·012	E	263·4	91·0	22nd "	66·7	26th, 27th Apl.	86·9	67·8	77·6	−0·2	79·9
	Rungpore	Rungpore	29·748	29·853	+·005	E	274·1	88·1	22nd "	64·7	30th "	82·8	69·6	76·1	−0·2	79·5
	Julpigoree, Cooch Behar	Julpigoree	29·749	29·864	+·010	E	157·8	84·0	21st, 22nd Apl.	61·0	21st "	81·0	65·5	73·8	−0·3	79·0
	Darjeeling Hill Tracts	Darjeeling	22·858	—	−·001	SW	131·0	68·4	24th "	49·7	26th "	59·7	47·5	53·6	−0·6	54·9
	Purneah, North Bhagulpore	Purneah	29·799	29·816	+·040	Calm	45·4	96·7	21st, 24th Apl.	63·7	24th to 28th Apl.	88·8	67·2	78·0	−0·4	79·6
	Monghyr	Monghyr					Observations not received.									
	Durbhunga	Durbhunga*	29·807	29·877	+·046	ENE	234·9	95·9	21st Apl.	59·0	25th, 26th Apl.	90·0	73·2	82·2	−4·0	79·1
	Champaran	Motihari	29·576	29·801	+·032	ENE	275·4	95·0	24th "	67·0	26th "	91·6	76·0	83·6	−3·5	83·4
	Sarun	Chapra	29·585	29·780	+·011	E	201·8	91·4	22nd "	68·7	27th "	88·6	73·7	82·4	−4·0	82·5
	Shahabad	Dehree	29·542	29·736	−·012	Variable	240·5	100·4	21st "	71·0	27th "	106·4	76·3	90·6	+2·3	82·1
		Buxar	29·565	29·796	+·014	NE	211·4	102·9	21st "	69·8	27th "	100·5	75·8	88·9	−0·3	84·1
		Arrah	29·551	29·772	+·012	E	177·4	102·4	24th "	69·7	27th "	99·1	74·4	86·8	−1·7	87·7
	Gya	Gya	29·572	29·762	−·020	Calm	112·0	108·1	21st "	69·0	26th "	104·8	71·7	88·0	−4·7	84·7
	Patna	Barkipore	29·603	29·748	+·010	E	181·2	99·9	24th "	69·8	27th "	97·4	75·1	86·3	−4·8	83·1
	South Bhagulpore, Monghyr	Bhagulpore	29·656	29·790	+·014	E	147·0	96·4	21st, 22nd, 24th Apl.	65·9	24th "	91·4	71·4	81·4	−2·7	82·7
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Doomka	29·701	—	−·011	E	224·0	101·5	21st "	66·7	27th "	96·7	71·9	84·3	−6·4	85·1
Chota Nagpore.	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	29·738	29·726	−·010	Westerly	234·8	102·5	24th "	63·8	26th "	100·4	72·6	86·0	+0·9	85·1
	Lohardugga, Manbhoom	Ranchee	29·731	29·747	−·007	Westerly	180·5	102·0	22th "	67·0	26th "	99·5	72·0	85·8	+0·1	85·1
	Singhbhoom	Chyebassa	29·704	—	−·018	SSW	80·9	100·1	24th "	68·2	24th "	100·4	72·8	86·6	−0·3	85·1

* Means for six days.

Explanation.—*Summary.*—The normal means of air pressure and temperature are the arithmetical averages of those of the reading stations [illegible]. The humidity of the atmosphere is expressed as percentage, saturated air being represented by 100. A clear day is denoted by [illegible] are the numerical means or averages of the rainfall in that district obtained from the returns of the stations. The rainfall [illegible] station in the district south of a line running divided by the number of stations. A minus sign [illegible]

for the week ending Friday, the 27th of April 1888.

Average humidity at 10 A.M.	Average cloud amount at 10 A.M. for week.	Rainfall of week as observed at station.	Up week. Mean for district.	Up week. Normal mean.	District observations. Rainfall. From 1st of month. Mean for district.	From 1st of month. Normal mean.	From 1st of month. Variation.	Since 15th May 1887. Mean for district.	Since 15th May 1887. Normal mean.	Since 15th May 1887. Variation.	Average number of rainy days.	Normal number of rainy days.	Representative station.	District.	Meteorological Division.
[illegible]	[illegible]		0·11	0·30	0·11	1·03	−0·90	40·61	60·21	−19·58	0·3	8·6	Puri	Puri	Orissa
81	6·4	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Gopalpore		
81	6·3	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	Pilot Point		
85	3·0	Nil		0·35		1·80			53·65			0·7	Cuttack	Cuttack	
71	8·7	0·95		0·45		1·43			87·63			0·9	Balasore	Balasore	
78	5·9	0·18	1·07	0·03	1·08	1·41	+0·27	81·20	60·79	−2·10	3·0	0·9	Saugor Island	South-West Midnapore	South-West Bengal
84	3·0	2·56	2·12	0·57	2·16	1·41	+0·72	55·24	63·62	+0·22	2·7	0·9	Midnapore	Midnapore	
82	6·1	2·02	2·23	0·60	2·26	1·53	+0·73	16·14	56·43	−10·09	2·4	1·2	Calcutta	24-Pergunnahs	
														Howrah	
														Hooghly	
8	6·0	0·38	0·79	0·72	0·90	1·78	−0·87	48·92	51·00	−2·08	2·3	1·3	Burdwan	Burdwan	
81	5·2	1·48	1·32	0·45	1·44	0·91	+0·53	53·95	55·13	−2·18	2·0	0·9	Bankura	Bankura	
85	3·4	1·64	1·21	0·40	1·26	1·04	+0·22	50·33	55·11	−4·79	2·3	1·1	Beerbhoom	Beerbhoom	
														West Burdwan	
81	8·1	2·26	0·97	0·55	1·92	1·15	+0·77	62·14	52·64	+9·79	2·2	1·0	Berhampore	Murshidabad	
81	6·0	1·26	1·01	0·91	2·10	2·03	+0·07	49·30	54·70	−5·31	3·8	1·6	Krishnaghur	Nadia	
79	8·1	3·38	2·51	1·12	3·38	2·30	+0·78	48·09	60·06	−11·97	5·4	1·9	Jessore	Jessore	
														Khoolna	
79	6·7	3·43	2·70	0·83	3·00	1·94	+1·16	105·44	119·19	−13·75	4·6	1·5	Chittagong	Chittagong	
				0·74		2·80			88·85			1·6	Rangamati	Chittagong Hill Tracts	
82	8·1	2·30	2·57	0·82	3·55	2·59	+1·10	67·57	81·46	−13·89	5·3	1·5	Barisal	Backergunge	East Bengal
	7·5	3·40	2·71	0·89	4·06	3·23	+1·23	65·49	117·87	−51·98	4·5	1·5	Noakholly	Noakholly	
80	4·8	4·12	4·52	1·21	5·40	3·14	+1·86	46·73	63·38	−16·65	4·3	2·0	Furreedpore	Furreedpore	
82	7·0	6·33	6·08	1·26	7·32	3·54	+3·78	54·56	68·73	−13·90	5·8	2·3	Dacca	Dacca	
78	8·7	4·25	4·77	1·36	7·23	4·61	+2·62	53·04	86·47	−33·43	4·3	1·7	Comillah	Comillah	
78	8·7	4·14	3·57	1·34	4·82	3·02	+1·80	68·71	73·82	−5·11	4·1	2·3	Mymensingh	Mymensingh	
78	6·8	1·73	2·02	0·86	2·02	1·46	+1·16	61·13	60·55	+3·82	4·7	1·6	Bogra	Bogra	North Bengal
77	6·7	3·57	4·26	0·99	3·32	2·39	+1·24	53·13	58·77	−5·64	4·5	1·5	Serajgunge	Pubna	
78	5·8	1·47	1·74	0·92	1·74	1·43	+0·31	53·04	57·41	−4·37	2·6	1·1	Rampore Beauleah	Rajshahye	
78	7·9	0·97	0·46	0·50	0·48	0·69	−0·21	47·50	66·83	−9·33	1·5	0·5	Maldah	Maldah	
71	7·8	5·06	2·45	0·97	3·45	0·82	+1·63	72·93	58·15	+14·80	5·2	1·9	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	
77	4·7	3·56	3·03	1·51	4·37	2·77	+1·60	81·86	76·93	+0·73	5·5	1·8	Rungpore	Rungpore	
81	8·1	10·61	4·03	1·60	4·75	3·58	+1·16	155·43	126·37	+29·06	6·0	2·8	Julpaiguri	Julpaiguri	
														Cooch Behar	
72	10·9	3·11	3·79	1·10	4·18	4·29	+0·38	150·31	152·32	−1·91	5·4	3·8	Darjeeling	Darjeeling Hill Tracts	
71	6·7	2·65		0·40		0·52			50·05			0·9	Purneah	Purneah	North Behar
														North Bhagulpore	
			1·99	0·21	1·09	0·47	+0·62	48·76	44·71	+3·95	1·0	0·6	Monghyr	Monghyr	
76	8·0	0·60	0·84	0·22	0·64	0·50	+0·01	51·10	45·61	+5·49	1·3	0·5	Durbhunga	Durbhunga	
86	5·8	0·78	0·49	0·31	0·40	0·51	−0·02	50·46	47·84	+2·62	1·0	0·4	Bettiah	Chumparun	
85	7·0	—	Nil	0·05	Nil	0·18	−0·13	40·37	44·90	−3·53	0·9	0·5	Pooree	Sarun	
	0·7	—											Behea		
85	6·4	drops	0·02	0·05	0·03	0·17	−0·15	38·21	41·34	−2·13	0·7	0·2	Sasse	Shahabad	South-West Bengal
85	1·7	—											Arrah		
85	3·4	drops	Nil	0·10	Nil	0·25	−0·25	30·34	42·13	−3·19	0·0	0·5	Gya	Gya	South Behar
87	3·1	—	Nil	0·04	Nil	0·23	−0·19	30·61	43·34	−5·73	0·0	0·2	Patna	Patna	
84	3·8	0·95	0·20	0·15	0·31	0·42	−0·11	42·91	44·54	−0·63	1·6	0·3	Shahabad	South Bhagulpore	
														Monghyr	
78	7·8	0·32	0·08	0·13	0·38	0·33	−0·27	53·76	52·34	+1·01	1·7	0·6	Deoghur	Sonthal Pergunnahs	
81	8·1	5	0·34	0·10	0·04	0·13	−0·10	45·11	33·33	−4·22	0·4	0·3	Hazaribagh	Hazaribagh	Chota Nagpore
	1·0	—		0·14		0·39			40·72			0·6	Ranchi	Lohardugga	
														Singbhoom	
81	[illegible]	[illegible]	Nil	0·10	0·09	0·49	−0·61	35·11	34·21	+1·11	0·0	0·7	Chyebassa	Singbhoom	

[illegible] the week, is less than the corresponding normal mean, and positive when greater.

[illegible] the state only influenced by it. Under the head District observations of rainfall the normal mean [illegible] rainfall where marked in the district, i.e., from total rainfall at the [illegible]

Statement of Rainfall in Bengal for the week ending Friday (6 p.m.), the 27th of April 1888.

Meteorological division.	District.	Station.	Rainfall. Sunday, 22nd April.	Monday, 23rd April.	Tuesday, 24th April.	Wednesday, 25th April.	Thursday, 26th April.	Friday, 27th April.	Total. Number of rainy days.	Rainfall of week.	Total rainfall since 1st of month.	Average total rainfall from 1st of month.	Total rainfall since 15th May 1887.	Average rainfall from 15th May to date.
ORISSA	Pooree	Pooree							Nil	Nil	Nil	0·56	30·55	54·95
		Khandah							Nil	Nil	Nil	0·98	39·93	69·93
		Kenjur	0·46						1	0·46	0·46	0·77	40·38	54·72
		False Point							Nil	Nil	Nil	2·50	30·94	68·35
		Gop							Nil	Nil	Nil	?	30·22	?
		Puri							Nil	Nil	Nil	?	?	?
	Cuttack	Jagatsingpore							Nil	Nil	Nil	0·06	23·64	0·06
		Benji	0·03						1	0·03	0·03		48·03	
		Cuttack							Nil	Nil	Nil	1·57	5·45	0·50
		Kendrapara							Nil	Nil	Nil	1·12	54·36	53·10
		Jajpore							Nil	Nil	Nil	1·70	60·30	50·46
		Dharmsalla							Nil	Nil	Nil	?	41·49	?
		Salipore							Nil	Nil	Nil	?	51·31	?
	Balasore	Chandbali							Nil	Nil	Nil	1·00	47·49	57·49
		Bhadrak			0·30		0·30		2	0·66	1·06	1·71	49·44	56·51
		Kosla	0·16		0·10		1·02		3	1·28	2·31	1·31	44·55	56·64
		Balasore	0·10		0·30		0·10		4	1·10	1·70	2·23	47·54	65·56
		Jellasore										0·93		55·34
		Haripoorah		0·70				0·40	2	0·50		1·05		56·24
SOUTH-WEST BENGAL	Midnapore	Contai	0·37	0·47				0·36	3	1·20	1·55	3·19	56·59	65·55
		Saugor Island		0·11			0·81	0·75	4	1·67	0·96	1·79	70·14	70·58
		Tumlook					1·04		1	1·04	1·60	1·60	56·00	65·48
		Midnapore	0·15				1·75	0·48	3	2·38	2·31	1·11	51·73	62·73
		Chandul				0·01	2·22	0·15	3	2·38	2·56	1·54	56·83	66·70
		Kukrahaty						2·10	1	2·10	2·10	?	60·92	?
		Hedee					1·58	0·70	2	1·48	1·78	?	47·01	?
		Bheerampore	1·25				0·25		2	1·50	1·95	?	47·31	?
		Garbeta			0·35		2·40	0·35	3	3·10	3·28	?	45·35	?
	24-Pergunnahs	Diamond Harbour						2·10	1	2·10	2·51	1·61	61·16	63·19
		Canning Town					1·13	2·37	2	3·50	3·69		65·29	?
		Alipore Jail					0·61	2·13	2	2·74	3·17	1·44	49·17	64·24
		Barrackpore	0·13				0·25	1·88	3	2·26	2·50	1·44	40·38	56·12
		Fort-Dum-Dum					0·10	1·50	2	1·60		1·73		60·03
		Betagore	0·05				0·14	4·24	3	4·43	4·95	1·41	47·18	61·76
		Diamond					1·81	2·36	2	4·17	4·17	1·58	54·43	59·49
	Howrah	Howrah					0·65	1·26	2	2·73	2·24	1·79	48·18	56·01
		Bohorcoorah (Goloberiah)						1·01	1	1·01	1·01	1·14	42·78	56·45
	Hooghly	Serampore	0·08				0·55	1·19	3	1·82	1·93	1·63	38·[illegible]	52·19
		Hooghly					1·42	0·20	2	1·62	1·96	1·01	41·21	52·72
		Jehanabad			0·03	0·05	1·70		3	1·78	2·15	1·50	39·56	56·15
	Burdwan	Culna				0·51	0·09		2	0·60	0·96	1·19	41·17	49·11
		Burdwan				0·13	0·41	0·06	3	0·60	0·47	1·97	47·96	52·29
		Culna	0·75				0·04		2	0·79	1·35	1·40	37·02	51·71
		Kutwah		0·10		0·05	1·06		3	1·79	1·95	1·14	40·95	52·50
		Mankur	0·15						1	0·15	0·00	?	45·19	?
	Bankoora	Bankoora	0·02		0·08		1·19		3	1·29	1·59	1·31	46·95	45·41
		Bishenpore	1·15				1·75	0·12	3	3·02	2·91	1·15	60·64	55·06
		Mohona					0·87		1	0·87	0·87	0·65	51·21	51·78
		Khatra					0·24		1	0·24	0·24	0·50	53·36	50·50
		Indas				0·06	0·54	0·15	3	1·01	0·37	?	44·31	?
		Kotalpore		0·50	1·13		0·93		3	2·56	2·11	?	43·65	?
		Gola			0·10	0·20	0·61		3	0·71	1·00	?	40·49	?
		Ganganjalghati			0·71		0·10		2	0·71	1·71	?	52·30	?
		Raipore				0·23			1	0·23	0·43	?	51·12	?
		Sonamukhi	0·72		0·45		1·31		3	2·08	4·10	?	48·18	?
	Beerbhoom	Hill Sooty	0·67				0·12		2	0·79	1·58	0·67	55·15	56·15
		Deoganjee	1·03						1	1·03	1·03	0·85	52·08	57·23
		Bampore Haut	0·[illegible]	0·26			0·40		3	0·82	0·82		46·82	
		Bolpore	0·71				1·41		2	2·12	2·03		46·66	
	Nuddea	Ranaghat	0·06			0·05	0·32	0·10	4	0·53	1·08	2·78	54·37	48·70
		Krishnagurhy	0·10	0·[illegible]		0·12	0·12	0·17	5	1·19	2·09	2·34	46·93	48·40
		Chuadanga	0·10	0·50		0·10	0·05		4	1·00	3·15	2·46	48·45	48·07
		Meherpore	0·01	0·[illegible]			1·20		3	2·61	2·61	2·19	54·[illegible]	53·71
		Kumarkhali	1·05	1·[illegible]			1·10		3	3·46	4·37	2·51	54·18	49·38
	Khoolna	Satkhira					1·20	1·25	2	2·45		3·33		61·61
		Bagirhat				1·28	0·45	1·20	3	3·13	4·77	2·70	58·71	61·00
		Khoolna	0·04			1·31	0·34	0·60	4	2·19	3·04	2·03	51·25	61·56
	Jessore	Narail	0·51	0·41		0·06	0·21	0·11	5	1·30	3·42	1·01	52·20	45·37
		Jessore	0·28	1·20		0·94	0·67	0·03	5	3·35	4·27	2·26	45·22	41·76
		Jhenidah	1·00	0·[illegible]			1·08		3	3·11	4·16	2·68	51·19	49·[illegible]
		Magoorah	0·45	0·5[illegible]		0·33	0·45		4	1·80	2·31	2·02	52·90	47·07
		Bongong						0·42	1	0·42	1·27	2·[illegible]	50·15	46·14
	Moorshedabad	Kandi	1·16				0·08		2	1·24	1·04	1·23	41·07	54·21
		Berhampore	0·75				0·65	0·01	3	1·41	1·66	1·44	40·40	44·40
		Lalbagh		1·00			0·18		2	1·18	1·96	0·98	32·[illegible]	51·09
		Azimgunge	0·81				0·13		2	0·93	1·21	1·18	42·21	55·07
		Jungipore					0·13	0·02	2	0·15	0·28	1·04	44·15	50·10
		Lalgola					0·50	0·03	1	0·50	1·15	1·08	43·84	55·45
		Akrigunj	0·62			0·50	0·20		3	1·32	1·68	?	43·67	?
		Pattikhari				0·10	1·10		2	1·20	2·30	?	?	?
EAST BENGAL	Chittagong	Cox's Bazar	0·55				0·55	0·41	0·12	4	1·63	1·78	1·84	135·30	107·10
		Chittagong	1·46	0·18		0·53	0·41	0·30		5	2·87	3·25	2·24	84·35	100·10
		Anwalah	0·41	0·01									?		?
		Satkania	1·05	0·01									?		
	Chittagong Hill Tracts	Rangamati	0·35			0·10	1·00	0·20	0·30	5	2·05	4·04	2·[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
		Ranga	0·4										2·00		
	Backergunge	Patuakhally	0·37	0·03	0·07	2·23	0·16	1·70		4	5·04	5·02	1·03	41·71	[illegible]
		Barisal	0·40		1·20	0·11	0·38	0·09		5	2·78	3·57	2·00	41·[illegible]	[illegible]
		Burrisal	0·72	0·70		0·30	0·48	0·44		5	2·73	2·13	2·13	40·72	[illegible]
		Bhola	0·20	0·00		0·36	1·31	0·10		3	2·00	2·50	2·04	[illegible]	[illegible]

Statement of Rainfall in Bengal for the week ending Friday (6 p.m.), the 27th of April 1888—*contd.*

Meteorological Division.	District.	Station.	Rainfall. Saturday, 14th April.	Sunday, 15th April.	Monday, 16th April.	Tuesday, 17th April.	Wednesday, 18th April.	Thursday, 19th April.	Friday, 20th April.	Total. Number of rainy days.	Rainfall of week.	Total rainfall since 1st of month.	Average total rainfall from 1st of month.	Total rainfall since 15th May 1887.	Average rainfall from 15th May to date.
EAST BENGAL—*concld.*		*Goomaldie*	0·30	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·85	.....	1	2·15	[illegible]	[illegible]	47·13	[illegible]
		Bangal	1·00	0·15	.....	0·03	1·38	1·10	.....	5*	4·71	4·71	[illegible]	68·91	[illegible]
	Noakhally	Noakhally	0·92	0·11	.....	0·27	1·09	0·10	.....	5	2·55	4·24	3·04	81·97	112·90
		Fenny	1·10	.....	0·42		1·25	.....	1·16	4	3·93	5·67	3·00	85·00	117·07
		Harishpore	[illegible]										[illegible]		[illegible]
		Beanigunj	0·70	0·12	0·02	0·09	1·06						[illegible]		[illegible]
	Furreedpore	Madaripore	0·25	0·16	.....	0·76	1·15	0·95	.....	6	2·78	2·93	3·11	41·93	81·86
		Furreedpore	0·45	0·24		0·13	0·96	.....	.....	1	1·33	2·72	3·13	51·02	88·87
		Goalundo	0·05	1·30	.....	2·11	2·72	.....	.....	4	5·83	6·14	3·15	47·98	69·77
	Dacca	Munshigunge	1·40	0·25	.....	1·26	1·82	0·18	0·02	6	4·93	6·57	4·15	53·35	91·49
		Dacca	0·28	.....	1·11	3·40	0·72	.....	0·23	5	5·74	8·12	3·73	61·90	87·08
		Naraingunge	1·63	0·12	2·13	0·19	3·11	0·12	0·51	7	8·21	9·29	2·91	60·16	69·45
		Manickgunge	0·80	0·25	.....	0·23	2·03	0·16	.....	5	4·56	4·29	3·36	45·01	67·69
		Angulsbpore	1·12	0·10	.....	.....	1·05	1·70	.....	4	4·55	6·51	7	41·49	[illegible]
	Hill Tipperah Tipperah	Agartola	3·08	.....	1·30	.....	1·23	.....	0·15	4	5·76	11·60	3·92	69·60	73·09
		Comilla	1·46	.....	0·45	.....	2·37	0·05	0·51	5	4·48	6·16	4·17	62·41	66·37
		Chandpore	0·50	0·20	.....	0·11	1·60	0·10	.....	6	2·51	4·19	4·93	50·01	89·16
		Brahmanbaria	4·05	.....	0·29	0·12	1·08	.....	.....	4	6·68	9·16	4·02	51·85	73·31
		Ramnagar-pore.	2·50	0·20	0·15	0·50	0·70	0·10	0·80	7	4·95	8·55	7	40·47	7
		Nasirnagar	1·10	.....	1·10	.....	1·10	3·80	1·82	6	8·12	10·17	7	46·02	7
		Bandarkol	0·97	0·25	.....	1·72	0·95	0·05	0·32	6	4·20	6·21	7	40·04	7
		Sarda	1·20	.....	.....	0·50	1·15	.....	1·10	4	3·95	12·00	2	46·49	7
		Lerabazar	1·10	0·05	.....	0·70	1·31	0·21	1·16	6	5·03	6·37	.....	41·42	7
	Mymensingh	Mymensingh	1·97	.....	.....	.....	1·57	1·82	0·15	4	4·71	7·56	3·47	68·91	74·18
		Atia (Tangail)	0·45	0·05	.....	.....	0·72	1·08	.....	4	2·30	4·80	3·17	47·02	65·44
		Mymensingh	1·15	0·05	.....	.....	1·34	0·57	0·61	5	4·61	5·71	3·17	76·01	90·43
		Jamalpore	1·10	.....	.....	0·32	0·81	0·81	.....	4	2·51	3·41	2·67	66·93	70·59
		Netrokona	0·15	.....	0·05	.....	1·05	0·85	0·35	5	2·51	3·90	2·95	83·21	77·94
		Subornakhally	0·20	0·30	.....	0·10	1·06	1·57	.....	5	3·17	1·57	2	59·02	7
		Durgapore	0·40	.....	1·20	0·20	0·68	1·10	0·10	6	4·50	7·95	2	122·67	7
		Dewanganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	1·05	1·45	.....	5	2·61	2·61	2	55·16	7
NORTH BENGAL.	Pubna	Pubna	0·15	0·21	.....	1·39	2·82	0·01	.....	6	5·12	5·62	2·00	47·31	69·54
		Serajgunge	0·10	0·26	.....	.....	1·55	1·78	.....	4	3·70	4·70	3·17	63·00	67·38
	Bogra	Sherpore	0·05	1·95	.....	0·06	0·96	0·96	.....	5	3·96	3·96	1·14	52·42	62·69
		Sonkhalla	0·72	0·22	.....	0·27	0·84	0·15	.....	5	2·20	2·90	1·00	43·21	59·95
		Bogra	0·10	.....	.....	0·10	1·09	0·42	.....	4	2·09	2·96	1·11	49·79	53·97
		Panchbibi	0·75	.....	.....	0·08	2·30	0·22	.....	4	3·35	3·62	1·19	34·02	47·33
	Rajshahye	Beauleah	0·91	.....	.....	.....	0·41	.....	.....	2	1·32	1·91	1·12	.....	65·01
		Nattore	.....	.....	0·70	.....	1·50	.....	.....	2	2·20	2·40	1·77	62·50	56·93
		Sirajgunge	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·41	.....	.....				[illegible]		[illegible]
		Lurgana	.....	.....	.....	0·42	.....	.....	.....	1	0·42	2·12	[illegible]	50·81	[illegible]
		Manda	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·60	.....	.....	1	0·60	0·60	[illegible]	45·09	[illegible]
	Malda	Malda	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·03	.....	.....	1	0·07	0·07	0·19	60·00	58·73
		Chanchal	.....	.....	.....	0·51	0·07	.....	.....	2	0·58	0·64	0·64	63·41	59·79
		Gajol	.....	.....	.....	0·56	0·44	.....	.....	2	0·79	0·79	[illegible]	52·17	[illegible]
		Sibganj	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2·19	8·0	0·01	[illegible]	43·09	[illegible]
	Dinagepore	Dinagepore	.....	.....	.....	1·15	0·05	0·01	.....	3	0·23	0·23	1·00	63·51	62·15
		Churaman	.....	.....	.....	0·95	0·97	0·02	.....	3	1·40	2·01	0·93	60·71	57·07
		Isagunge	.....	.....	.....	0·44	1·17	0·19	.....	3	1·82	1·82	0·91	50·03	56·95
		Dinajpore	.....	.....	0·20	.....	1·01	0·55	0·03	4	1·79	2·79	1·25	56·93	65·10
		Bangipur	.....	.....	.....	0·46	1·91	0·24	.....	3	2·71	2·71	0·61	65·30	
	Rungpore	Bhowanigunge (Gyabandha).								0	0·00	0·72	2·35	74·77	65·67
		Kurigram	0·20	.....	.....	1·73	0·78	1·70	.....						
		Rungpore	0·08	0·05	0·10	1·87	1·75	0·90	0·05	7	4·18	4·37	2·22	82·26	78·24
		Kaunia	.....	0·90	.....	0·56	0·72	0·50	0·06	5	2·78	2·95	2·08	79·61	64·41
		Bagdogra (Jalpaiguri).	0·03	0·02	.....	1·14	1·56	1·06	0·12	6	3·52	6·12	2·47	100·73	67·43
		Ulipore	.....	.....	.....	1·20	0·90	0·02	.....	3	2·00	2·02	2	67·61	7
	Julpigoree	Julpigoree	0·06	0·15	.....	1·35	0·96	2·30	.....	5	4·70	4·70	3·13	107·87	121·87
		Alipore Duar	0·30	1·20	0·20	1·46	1·40	1·31					[illegible]		
		Fallacotta	0·58	0·20	.....	2·58	0·90	1·60	.....	5	5·72	8·21	2	126·14	7
		Debiganj	0·74	0·10	.....	0·94	1·02	1·45	.....	5	4·26	5·15	1	144·42	7
	Cooch Behar	Dinhatta	0·19	0·32	0·01	1·05	0·16	1·00	.....	6	3·32	5·44	0·40	100·01	100·23
		Cooch Behar	0·70	1·18	1·68	1·47	1·28	0·02	0·13	7	5·26	7·03	4·00	130·44	114·00
		Mekligunge	0·08	1·66	0·04	0·72	1·42	0·03	.....	6	4·10	4·49	0·13	130·10	114·71
		Mathabhanga	0·51	1·13	0·29	0·61	1·12	0·06	.....	6	3·72	7·00	3·11	130·58	121·15
	Darjeeling Hill.	Kurseong	1·58	1·00	0·23	0·35	1·18	0·60	.....	6	4·94	7·77	7·93	183·62	200·97
		Siliguri	.....	1·70	.....	0·90	0·45	1·40	.....	4	3·55	5·55	2·[illegible]	200·[illegible]	102·[illegible]
		Darjeeling	0·10	.....	.....	0·42	0·04	0·11	0·21	4	1·08	2·19	3·05	150·90	110·74
		Kalimpong	0·40	.....	.....	0·31	0·29	0·25	0·26	3	2·31	2·56	2·56	80·10	84·51
NORTH BEHAR	Purneah	Kissengunge	0·45	.....	.....	2·98	1·66	0·10	0·21	6	10·71	10·77	0·10	95·01	71·58
		Arrareah	0·60	.....	.....	1·12	0·69	0·11	.....	4	2·51	3·03	1·19	71·81	66·76
		Purneah	.....	.....	.....	1·34	0·55	0·05					1·00		63·43
		Gondwara	.....	.....	.....		0·55						[illegible]		[illegible]
		Beharampore	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·01					[illegible]		[illegible]
		Manihari	0·50	1·00	.....	1·92	0·50	0·91	0·10	6	4·93	6·32	[illegible]	90·90	[illegible]
		Aurangaj	0·35	0·30	.....	0·04	0·80	1·71	.....	4	2·50	2·71	[illegible]	80·15	[illegible]
	North Bhagulpore.	Bhagulpore	.....	.....	.....	0·92	1·40	.....	.....	3	2·32	2·32	0·72	62·70	55·90
		Sultanganj	0·05	.....	.....	0·19	1·00	.....	.....	3	1·24	1·24	0·75	50·31	48·03
		Pirpainti	.....	.....	1·30	0·70	.....	0·[illegible]	.....	3	2·07	2·07	[illegible]	60·95	[illegible]
	Lukhisarai	Tajpur	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·10	.....	.....	1	0·10	0·10	0·27	46·90	46·26
		Jamalpur	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·01	.....	.....	1	0·01	0·01	0·45	64·72	46·19
		Bhaghwan	.....	.....	.....	0·07	0·05	.....	.....	2	0·12	0·12	0·63	60·05	46·19
		Dakora	.....	.....	.....	0·10	0·05	.....	.....	2	0·15	0·15	[illegible]	66·14	[illegible]
		Sorhera	.....	.....	.....	0·30	.....	.....	.....	1	0·30	0·30	[illegible]	60·93	[illegible]
	Monghyr	Bhagalpur	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·70	0·00	.....	2	0·70	0·70	0·09	63·45	45·85
		Monghyr	.....	.....	.....	.....	0·56	.....	.....	1	0·56	0·56	0·04	61·06	47·01
		Jamoor											0·16		45·29
		Pora											[illegible]		[illegible]
		Jhajha				0·10	1·60						[illegible]		[illegible]
		Sikar					1·80			1	1·80	1·80	[illegible]		[illegible]
		Pagal					1·06	0·60					[illegible]		[illegible]
	[illegible]	Motihari				0·98	0·08			1	0·95	0·95	0·16	0·75	42·08
		Bettiah								1	0·08	0·08	0·14	40·19	30·30
		Bagaha				0·18				1	0·18	0·18	[illegible]	0·07	[illegible]
		Sorhaiya					0·[illegible]			1	0·[illegible]	0·[illegible]	[illegible]	60·[illegible]	[illegible]

Statement of Rainfall in Bengal for the week ending Friday (6 p.m.), the 27th of April 1888—*concld.*

Meteorological Division.	District.	Station.	Rainfall. Saturday, 21st April.	Sunday, 22nd April.	Monday, 23rd April.	Tuesday, 24th April.	Wednesday, 25th April.	Thursday, 26th April.	Friday, 27th April.	Total. Number of rainy days.	Rainfall of week.	Total rainfall since 1st of month.	Average total rainfall from 1st of month.	Total rainfall since 15th May last.	Average rainfall from 15th May to date.
NORTH BEHAR—*concluded.*	Saran	Gopalganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·13	48·95	48·41
		Sewan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·20	36·34	45·79
		Chapra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·11	38·70	41·01
SOUTH BEHAR	Shahabad	Bikrow	...	...	...	...	0·01	...	...	1	0·01	0·01	0·17	44·74	39·73
		Dumraon	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	30·71	?
		Bhabua	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·20	1	0·20	0·20	0·13	42·08	42·03
		Rohtas	...	...	...	...	0·05	...	...	1	0·05	0·05	0·17	36·13	41·[illegible]
		Arrah	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·17	43·34	41·29
		Mohania	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	?	?
	Gya	Aurangabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·24	37·06	44·15
		Gya	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·23	38·67	45·73
		Sherghati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·28	38·01	47·[illegible]
		Jehanabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·16	40·37	41·51
		Arwal	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	41·13	?
		Daudnagar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	35·01	?
		Sherghati	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	39·45	?
		Rajauli	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?
		Pakri Barawan	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	23·34	?
	Patna	Patna	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·20	37·17	43·15
		Dinapore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·25	39·44	42·32
		Behar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·21	35·51	43·31
		Barh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·10	30·01	41·32
		Bankipore	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	40·15	?
		Bihar	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0·03	?	36·57	?
	Monghyr	Begusarai	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·24	40·08	40·16
		Monghyr	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0·02	0·30	42·21	42·72
		Jamui	...	...	...	0·33	...	...	...	1	0·33	0·45	0·24	40·16	41·18
		Gogri	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	41·03	?
		Sheikpura	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	28·58	?
	South Bhagulpore	Bhagulpore	...	...	...	0·05	...	...	...	1	0·05	0·05	0·05	41·08	41·10
		Banka	...	...	...	...	0·06	...	...	1	0·06	0·06	0·12	40·62	41·41
		Colgong	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	42·46	?
	Sonthal Pergunnahs	Rajmahal	...	...	...	...	0·14	...	...	1	0·14	0·14	0·20	58·12	[illegible]
		Godda	0·14	...	...	...	...	0·10	...	2	0·24	0·34	0·43	40·80	46·21
		Pakour	...	...	...	...	0·10	...	...	1	0·10	0·26	0·32	37·09	37·66
		Nya Dumka	0·03	...	...	...	0·31	...	...	2	0·34	0·76	0·76	43·34	46·45
		Deoghur	...	...	...	0·06	0·16	...	...	2	0·22	0·76	0·76	40·21	41·71
		Jamtara	...	...	0·11	...	0·26	...	...	2	0·37	0·37	0·45	40·71	41·15
		Sooro	...	...	...	...	...	...	...				?		?
		Dumkat	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	36·01	?
CHUTIA NAGPUR.	Hazaribagh	Ramgarh (Gorah).	0·13	...	0·05	...							0·45	30·01	40·19
		Hazaribagh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·35	37·58	40·93
		Bermo	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·20	41·37	41·21
		Mandu Hills		...	...	...							0·07		40·56
		Jhumrah Hills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil		35·00	
		Barhi	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	30·70	?
		Chatra	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	36·10	?
		Karagdiha	...	...	...	0·80	...	...	...	1	0·80	0·80	?	28·26	?
		Ramghur	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	31·54	?
	Lohardugga	Lohardugga	0·02	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0·02	0·02	?	37·70	?
		Palamau	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·08	35·34	34·65
		Daltonganj	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	0·35	30·71	34·51
		Sirhi											?		?
		Balumath	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	?	?
		Hussainabad	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	35·30	?
		Garhwa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	34·85	?
	Singbhum	Chaibassa	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	0·08	0·20	33·11	34·2
		Chakardharpore.										0·13	?	41·44	?
		Gamharia										0·15	?	35·94	?
		Banaraura	...	...	...	0·13	0·13	...	...	2	0·26	0·35	?	41·40	?
	Manbhoom	Purulia	0·08	0·21	...	...	0·22	0·03	...	4	0·32	0·32	0·71	47·05	34·2
		Gobindpore	...	...	...	...	0·05	...	...	1	0·05	0·05	0·07	30·00	47·1
		Radhanathpore.	...	...	...	...	0·70	...	...	1	0·70	0·70	?	30·00	?
		Barrabhum	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?	43·31	?
		Jhalda											?		?
		Chas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil	Nil	Nil	?		?

Explanation.—Indicates that no rain has taken. If the return for any day has not been received, the corresponding space is left blank. If any of the rain gauges making the corresponding season in the total rainfall columns are left blank.

CALCUTTA, *the 1st May* 1888.

SUMMARY OF THE RAINFALL AND METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS TAKEN IN BENGAL FOR THE WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, THE 27TH OF APRIL 1888.

In the report for the previous week it was noticed that towards its close the meteorological conditions obtaining over the province had undergone a considerable change, and that a moist easterly wind current had set in at the eastern and northern stations, and have gradually driven back the dry westerly current which had been previously blowing over almost the entire province. As usually happens in such cases, where there are two conflicting wind systems, which are opposed both in direction and character, weather conditions at once became disturbed, and local storms attended with rain occurred in the eastern, northern and southern districts. Similar conditions have obtained throughout the present week; a very moist easterly wind current has prevailed over the greater part of the province, and has even penetrated over the greater part of Behar, though westerly and south-westerly winds have been still blowing generally in Chutia Nagpur and Orissa and at the neighbouring stations of South-West Bengal. Consequently weather conditions have remained decidedly disturbed in Bengal throughout the week, and local storms with rain have been extremely frequent. The districts of Pooree and Cuttack in Orissa, and all the districts of South Behar and Chutia Nagpur, except Sonthal Pergunnahs and Manbhoom, have, however, been comparatively free from these storms, and rainfall in these districts has been scanty, but in the districts of East and North Bengal these storms have been very numerous, and the rainfall brought by them has been heavy. Some of these storms have again been exceptionally severe, and notice has been received that in the Hooghly district, on the evening of Friday, the 23rd, the small town of Bhudressur, which is close to Serampore, or only 16 or 17 miles north of Calcutta, was visited by a small but severe tornado, which lasted from about three to six minutes. Mr. Duke, the Sub-divisional Officer, Serampore, writes that the storm entered the south-eastern part of the town from the river about 8 o'clock in the evening. At first the direction of the track was north-west by north, and having travelled about 1½ miles, finally left north-east about the northern part of Bhudressur, disappearing in the river as it had come. The breadth of the course was about 200 to 300 yards on land from the shore, and the centre and point of greatest violence about the line of the riverbank near the gunge. The winds rotated from right to left, and the tornado was preceded by a booming sound. Much damage was done and large boats were lifted out of the water and thrown over the banks, and in one case a dinghi had been blow up on to a tree which had first been partially blown down. Seven persons are known to have been killed and three are missing, while a considerable number have been injured. Even up till the close of the week these disturbed conditions have continued over a large part of the province, nor did there at that time appear to be any immediate prospect of more settled weather setting in over the province.

Pressure.—As might be expected from the unsettled weather which has been experienced during the week, the pressure oscillations have been unusually large and varied. Thus on Friday, the 21st, there was an increase of pressure at many stations of nearly a tenth of an inch, which was followed by a further rise on the 22nd of about half that amount; on Monday, the 23rd, there was a fall which in some cases exceeded a tenth of an inch, which was followed by a further moderate fall on the 24th. A still larger fall took place on the 25th, but on the 26th this was succeeded by a rapid rise, while on the last day of the week the pressure changes were comparatively small. At neighbouring stations also the amounts of these changes have been rather variable, pointing clearly to a disturbed state of the atmosphere. A rather important result of the changes which have taken place during the week has been the establishment of a distinct low pressure area over Chutia Nagpur and the western parts of the province generally, and thus the mean pressure for the week is decidedly below the normal over this area, while almost the whole of the remainder of the province shows a pressure in excess of the normal. Taking, however, the whole province into consideration, the mean pressure for the week has been 0·012 inch above the normal. The largest variations from the normal have been a defect of 0·029 inch at Gya and one of 0·026 inch at Hazaribagh, and an excess of 0·048 inch at Durbhunga and one of 0·046 inch at Dacca.

Temperature—Has fallen rather rapidly during the week over the greater part of the province, and has remained rather low owing to the succession of small storms and rain. Thus, while the mean temperature of the province for the previous week was 2·2° in excess of the normal, in the present week the mean temperature has been 3·5° below the normal. The defect is particularly large in North Bengal, where it amounts to 6·9°, and in East Bengal and North Behar, where it is from 5° to 6°; while on the other hand temperature has been in slight excess in Chutia Nagpur, where there has been little or no rain. The defects at particular stations are even larger than those just quoted, and at Berhampur the mean temperature for the week has been 9° below the normal, and at Rampur Beauleah 10·2° below it.

The following table, which gives the actual average temperatures during the week and their variations from the normal values at nine typical stations in the province, will show the general temperature distribution clearly :—

Table showing the excess or defect of the actual mean temperature from the normal for the week ending 27th April 1888.

	Normal mean maximum temperature for the week ending 27th April.	Actual mean maximum temperature for the week ending 27th April 1888.	Variation of actual mean from the normal.	Normal mean minimum temperature for the week ending 27th April.	Actual mean minimum temperature for the week ending 27th April 1888.	Variation of actual mean from the normal.	Normal mean daily temperature for the week ending 27th April.	Actual mean daily temperature for the week ending 27th April 1888.	Variation of actual mean from the normal.
Cuttack	101·8	103·8	+2·0	78·3	79·5	+1·2	90·1	91·7	+1·6
Calcutta	95·3	91·6	−3·5	76·4	75·1	−1·3	85·8	83·1	−2·4
Dacca	92·7	86·5	−6·2	74·2	68·2	−6·0	83·4	77·4	−6·0
Burdwan	100·6	96·9	−3·7	76·5	71·3	−5·2	88·6	85·6	−3·0
Patna	102·0	97·4	−5·6	73·9	72·2	−1·7	88·5	85·3	−3·2
Gya	105·2	104·2	−1·0	76·2	71·7	−4·5	90·7	88·0	−2·7
Purneah	98·0	88·8	−9·2	70·8	67·2	−3·6	84·5	78·0	−6·4
Hazaribagh	93·3	90·4	−2·9	75·5	74·4	+0·8	84·9	82·9	+0·0
Darjeeling	61·9	59·7	−2·2	47·3	47·5	+0·2	54·3	53·6	−0·6

Rainfall.—Decidedly heavy rain has fallen in East and North Bengal, which have received an average amount of about four inches during the week. South-West Bengal and North Behar have also received good rain, and an average fall of about one-and-three-quarters to one and-a-half inches is recorded. The fall in Orissa has been much smaller and has been mainly confined to the Balasore district; in South Behar the fall has been principally in the Sonthal Pergunnahs district; and in Chutia Nagpur the slight fall has been to a great extent in Manbhoom. In the last three large meteorological divisions, however, the average rainfall only varies from about three-tenths to one-tenth of an inch.

In East Bengal all the districts have received good rain, but the Dacca district has received very heavy falls averaging six inches for the week. In South-West Bengal, Jessore and Khoolna and the 24-Pergunnahs have received the largest amounts, and in North Bengal, Pubna, Rungpore and Julpigoree districts have received heavy falls, while Maldah has registered a comparatively light fall. In Orissa the Balasore district has received nearly an inch, Pooree and Cuttack being almost rainless. In North Behar, Mozufferpore and Purneah report good rain, while in South Behar all districts have been practically rainless except the Sonthal Pergunnahs. In Chutia Nagpur a few isolated stations only report rain.

The following table gives the summary of the temperature and rainfall data of each of the seven meteorological divisions of the province for the week ending Friday, the 27th of April 1888 :—

Meteorological Divisions.	Temperature.						Rainfall.									
	Highest observed during week.	Lowest observed during week.	Averages for week.			Average mean of week above or below normal mean of week.	Of week.			Rainy days.			Since 1st of Month.		Since 15th May 1887.	
			Of highest of each day.	Of lowest of each day.	Of mean for each day.		Average.	Normal average.	Variation.	Average number in week.	Normal average number in week.	Variation.	Average.	Normal average.	Average.	Normal average.
Orissa	107·4	79·9	93·5	78·2	85·8	−0·7	0·30	0·30	0	0·7	0·9	−0·1	0·41	1·19	47·30	57·46
South-West Bengal ...	107·0	61·3	94·3	73·0	84·1	−3·8	1·77	0·69	+1·09	2·7	1·3	+1·4	2·17	1·70	62·04	58·45
East Bengal	92·1	64·9	85·5	69·0	77·3	−5·5	4·12	1·12	+3·00	4·5	1·9	+3·6	5·89	3·09	86·68	83·59
North Bengal	91·3	61·9	86·5	67·4	77·0	−6·0	3·73	1·01	+2·72	4·3	1·6	+2·7	3·80	2·00	79·01	78·83
North Behar	98·0	63·7	89·8	70·8	80·3	−5·2	1·48	0·21	+1·27	1·4	0·5	+0·9	1·48	0·57	54·65	49·01
South Behar	100·6	68·0	88·7	73·3	80·6	−2·3	0·13	0·10	+0·03	0·6	0·3	+0·3	0·15	0·36	43·00	45·23
Chutia Nagpur	102·6*	62·8*	90·9*	73·2*	82·0*	+0·7*	0·07	0·12	−0·05	0·7	0·4	+0·3	0·06	0·38	46·46	51·47

* Chyebassa not included.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, BENGAL;

The 1st May 1888.

A. PEDLER,

Offg. Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of Bengal.

Results of the Thermometrical Observations taken at the Meteorological Office, Chowringhee, from 22nd to 28th April 1888.

Month.	Date.	Temperature. Mean.	Maximum.	Range.	Minimum.	Mean wet bulb.	Hygrometry. Vapour tension.	Dew point.	Humidity.	Rain.
1888.		°	°	°	°	°	Inches.	°	%	Inches.
April ...	22nd ...	83·0	97·0	24·0	73·0	74·9	·778	70·0	67	
" ...	23rd ...	85·7	96·5	17·9	78·6	76·9	·817	75·9	79	
" ...	24th ...	85·2	96·0	20·2	75·2	79·0	·908	76·3	75	
" ...	25th ...	82·9	87·1	6·8	80·3	77·4	·867	74·9	77	
" ...	26th ...	79·2	86·3	20·2	66·1	72·8	·803	72·6	98	2·75
" ...	27th ...	81·3	92·0	19·6	72·4	78·2	·971	78·3	91	
" ...	28th ...	81·9	94·2	22·2	72·0	79·1	·972	78·4	89	0·03

The mean temperature of the seven days	...	...	...	° 81·9
The extreme variation of temperature	...	...	...	30·9
The maximum temperature ...	...	...	...	97·0
The mean relative humidity	...	...	...	% 81
The total fall of rain from 22nd to 28th April 1888		...	...	Inches. 2·78

The mean temperature and humidity are obtained by applying to the mean of the 10h, 16h, and minimum readings a correction dependent on the range, and derived from the hourly observations at the Surveyor-General's Office, Chowringhee, in past years.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE, INDIA;
The 30th April 1888.

ALEX. PEDLER,
For Offg. Meteorological Reporter to the Govt. of India.

MEMORANDUM.

THE principal Municipalities in Bengal registered, during the week ending 14th April 1888, births and deaths at the rates of 19·3 and 29·8 per 1,000 of population, respectively, as opposed to 19·9 and 27·5 per 1,000, respectively, in the preceding week ending 7th April, indicating a sensible improvement in the registration of deaths.

2. With regard to local distribution of the births and deaths of the week in question, the following Municipalities show the highest rates :—

Births.	Ratio per mille.	*Deaths.*	Ratio per mille.
Monghyr	44·3	Beauleah	110·4
Bhagulpore	35·3	Naraingunj	103·5
Serampore	33·4	Jessore	97·9
Beauleah	31·5	Serampore	86·4
Durbhanga	30·7	Suburbs of Calcutta	49·2
		Chittagong	42·3
		Durbhanga	37·8
		Gya	32·8
		Purneah	31·1
		Comillah	30·8

3. In comparison with the results of the preceding week, there was a noticeable enhancement of mortality from cholera and fever, particularly from cholera, and only small differences in the casualty-rates from the rest of the death-causes, *vide* figures given below—

	Ratio per *mille* during the weeks ending— 14th April 1888.	7th April 1888.
Cholera	9·6	8·1
Small-pox	·1	·2
Fever	9·9	9·0
Bowel-complaints	3·1	2·7
Injury	·5	·4
Other causes	6·4	7·0

4. The following Municipalities appear to have suffered the most from the diseases specified in the above table, excepting small-pox, bowel-complaints and injury, the casualties from which were nowhere above normal :—

Cholera.	Ratio per mille.	*Fever.*	Ratio per mille.	*Other causes.*	Ratio per mille.
Jessore	97·9	Beauleah ...	28·9	Serampore	25·6
Beauleah	78·8	Purneah ...	27·7	Naraingunj	16·5
Naraingunj	74·5	Durbhanga ...	22·8	Puri	10·5
Serampore	39·3	Gya ...	21·8	Dacca	9·7
Chittagong	23·5			Suburbs of Calcutta ...	9·5
Suburbs of Calcutta ...	21·5				
Comillah	19·2				
Howrah	13·7				
Hughli	10·7				
Dacca	4·5				

It will be seen that, in comparison with the results of the preceding week, the severity of cholera had abated considerably in Serampore, but that in Jessore, Beauleah, and Naraingunj the prevalence of the disease was very severe.

5. The mortality of the week, distributed under the heads of *Sex*, *Class* and *Age*, stood as indicated below—

According to Sex.	Ratio per mille.	*According to Class.*	Ratio per mille.	*According to Age.*	Ratio per mille.
Males	34·0	Christians	21·7	Under 1 year ...	190·4
Females	25·1	Hindus	26·7	1 and under 5 years ...	38·9
Ratio of male deaths to every 100 female deaths	153	Mahomedans ...	37·4	5 " 10 " ...	20·6
		Budhists	24·2	10 " 15 " ...	17·2
				15 " 20 " ...	21·4
				20 " 30 " ...	20·9
				30 " 40 " ...	23·9
				40 " 50 " ...	28·7
				50 " 60 " ...	33·3
				60 years and upwards ...	55·6

K. P. GUPTA, M.B., F.R.C.S., *Surgeon-Major,*
Offg. Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.

The 30th April 1888.

[illegible] in Bengal during the week ending 4th April 1888.

1	2	3			4			5			6	7							8							9	10		11		12
												MORTALITY ACCORDING TO—																			
												Disease.															Sex.				
												Deaths from—							Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.												
	Name of district.	Population.			Births.						Ratio of male births to every 100 female births.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Bowel-complaints.	Injury.	Other diseases.	All causes.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fevers.	Bowel-complaints.	Injury.	Other diseases.	All causes.	Ratio of deaths per 1,000 of population per annum in the previous week.	Deaths.		Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.		Ratio of male deaths to every 100 female deaths.
		Males.	Females.	Total.	Number of— Males.	Females.	Total.	Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum. Males.	Females.	Total.																	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.	
	Burdwan	18,088	16,017	34,090	7	10	17	10·7	15·9	13·9	70	...	...	9	1	...	5	15	...	...	13·3	1·5	...	7·6	22·9	19·6	6	7	23·0	22·7	114
	Midnapore	16,937	16,632	33,569	4	3	7	8·2	4·5	10·4	133	...	...	4	3	...	4	11	...	...	6·2	4·8	...	6·2	17·0	13·6	6	3	20·5	9·4	200
	Hughli and Chinsurah ...	19,379	19,338	38,718	4	6	10	5·4	8·0	13·4	60	6	1	6	2	...	1	16	10·1	1·3	8·0	2·7	...	1·3	24·2	21·4	9	9	26·4	24·6	100
	Howrah	13,669	12,837	26,496	6	11	17	21·5	21·0	33·4	54	21	...	6	4	1	13	45	33·3	...	11·5	7·8	1·9	24·3	95·6	73·3	31	13	119·0	62·3	239
	Uluberia	3,045	2,464	5,510	1	2	3	8·4	15·9	25·3	50	...	...	1	1	...	...	2	...	...	8·4	8·4	...	...	16·9	36·7	2	...	36·1	.	No female deaths.
	Howrah	35,433	37,080	90,513	20	19	39	11·3	10·3	21·6	111	24	...	6	7	...	6	45	13·7	...	3·4	4·0	...	3·4	24·6	27·5	28	15	27·6	20·7	186
	Hali	7,856	6,959	14,815	5	3	8	17·3	10·5	25·9	166	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	3·3	...	.	...	...	...	3·3	34·0	...	1	...	7·5	No male deaths.
	Suburbs of Calcutta ...	147,300	104,124	251,424	49	49	98	10·1	19·1	29·3	100	104	...	62	23	8	46	239	21·5	...	12·9	4·8	·8	9·5	49·9	30·9	142	95	50·2	47·8	147
	Khanghur	13,258	14,219	27,477	6	3	9	11·4	5·6	17·0	200	...	...	7	1	...	...	8	—	...	15·2	1·9	...	...	15·1	15·3	6	2	25·3	7·3	300
	Ranaghat	4,081	4,441	8,522	...	1	1	...	6·0	6·0	No male births.	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	6·0	...	...	...	6·0	21·0	...	1	...	11·2	No male deaths.
	Santipore	13,776	15,279	29,057	2	2	4	3·5	3·5	7·0	100	...	...	4	...	...	...	4	...	...	7·0	...	...	...	7·0	14·0	1	3	3·4	9·3	33
	Jessore	4,520	3,955	8,485	1	1	2	6·1	6·1	12·2	100	16	...	...	...	...	...	16	97·9	...	...	...	...	...	97·9	34·7	10	6	107·7	85·2	166
	Rajshahye	10,764	9,052	19,791	7	6	13	19·4	13·1	31·5	140	30	...	11	1	...	...	42	23·5	...	25·8	2·8	...	...	110·4	34·1	30	12	111·9	69·2	250
	Darjiling*	3,929	3,947	7,876	1	...	1	5·4	...	5·5	No female births.	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	5·5	5·5	19·3	...	1	...	17·6	No male deaths.
	Dacca	42,182	37,329	80,101	12	9	20	7·3	5·2	13·0	150	7	1	5	2	3	15	33	4·5	·8	3·2	1·3	1·9	9·7	21·4	17·5	21	12	25·5	16·7	175
	Narsinganj	7,605	4,956	12,561	5	2	7	20·7	8·3	29·9	250	15	...	1	1	1	4	21	74·3	...	4·1	4·1	4·1	16·5	103·3	43·6	14	11	35·8	115·5	127
	Chittagong	13,340	9,790	23,130	...	2	2	...	4·7	4·3	No male births.	10	...	5	...	1	1	18	23·5	...	14·1	...	3·9	2·5	42·3	42·0	12	6	84·8	25·5	200
	Noakhali	6,158	6,335	12,493	2	3	5	7·7	11·5	19·2	94	5	...	1	3	...	...	9	19·2	...	5·8	7·7	...	...	31·8	30·8	6	3	38·2	19·4	200
	Patna	78,703	81,474	160,237	21	14	35	7·5	4·5	11·3	176	3	...	23	3	9	19	58	1·9	...	7·6	1·0	·6	6·1	18·3	18·9	10	31	12·5	14·8	81
	Gya	39,290	37,851	78,141	16	12	28	10·9	8·2	19·2	133	...	2	32	2	1	12	49	...	·7	21·8	1·4	·7	8·2	32·9	20·4	32	16	43·5	22·0	200
	Shahabad	20,960	21,505	42,465	9	12	21	10·3	14·5	25·1	75	...	...	12	3	...	3	18	...	...	14·3	3·6	...	2·6	21·3	15·8	13	5	32·3	11·6	260
	Monghyr-Sarun	18,096	19,658	42,712	2	3	5	2·4	5·3	8·1	66	...	...	...	1	...	5	6	...	...	.	1·5	...	6·1	7·3	6·0	1	5	2·3	13·2	20
	Durbhanga	33,774	32,922	66,696	23	10	33	16·1	12·6	33·7	144	3	...	29	9	...	7	48	2·3	...	22·9	7·1	...	5·5	37·8	15·7	32	16	49·4	25·7	200
	Sarun	26,014	27,205	53,249	...	1	1	...	1·0	1·5	No male births.	...	...	...	5	...	5	6	...	...	...	2·0	...	2·0	5·5	2·0	5	1	10·0	1·9	500
	Bhagulpore	29,640	27,813	57,453	12	17	29	19·9	15·6	35·3	129	...	...	11	3	...	6	20	...	...	9·8	2·7	...	5·4	18·3	41·0	10	10	17·6	19·7	100
	Monghyr	25,151	29,328	57,530	23	26	49	29·5	24·3	44·8	84	...	...	6	4	...	5	17	...	...	7·3	3·0	...	4·5	15·4	19·0	8	8	16·0	14·2	119
	Purneah	8,465	8,551	16,916	2	2	4	6·9	6·9	13·9	100	...	...	3	...	...	1	9	...	...	27·7	...	...	3·4	34·1	15·5	5	4	30·7	31·2	125
	Pori	12,217	11,537	24,754	3	3	6	6·3	6·3	12·6	100	1	...	...	2	...	5	8	2·1	...	...	4·2	...	10·3	16·3	21·0	4	3	19·8	18·5	166
	Total ...	704,856	619,491	1,324,347	254	236	491	10·3	9·2	19·8	109	219	3	243	79	12	162	738	8·8	·1	8·9	3·1	·5	6·4	19·8	17·5	459	280	34·9	25·1	163

* A special census of the Europeans in the Darjiling Municipality was recently taken, as the census of this section of the community, taken in February 1881, was not reliable owing to the Europeans being at a minimum in that month. The number of the native population so taken, as it was not necessary to re-census them. The ratios have consequently been calculated on the revised population under all heads in the above table, except "Age," the ratios under which have been omitted, inasmuch as the census of the Europeans [illegible] cannot be employed as a basis of calculation owing to the results of the census under this head not having been recorded under the authorised form of age classification.

Districts.	Names of Municipalities.	13					14					15										16									
		MORTALITY ACCORDING TO—																													
		Class.										Age.																			
		Deaths among—					Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.					Deaths.										Ratio per 1,000 of population per annum.									
		Christians.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Buddhists.	Other classes.	Christians.	Hindus.	Mahomedans.	Buddhists.	Other classes.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 30 years.	30 and under 40 years.	40 and under 50 years.	50 and under 60 years.	60 years and upwards.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 5 years.	5 and under 10 years.	10 and under 15 years.	15 and under 20 years.	20 and under 30 years.	30 and under 40 years.	40 and under 50 years.	50 and under 60 years.	60 years and upwards.
Burdwan	Burdwan	...	9	6	...	...	...	19·3	33·4	...	...	2	...	1	1	3	...	4	1	3	7	157·6	......	22·5	20·7	33·3	......	30·2	11·8	43·3	70·8
Midnapore	Midnapore	...	9	3	...	...	...	16·6	31·0	...	...	5	...	1	...	...	2	2	1	...	3	160·4	......	13·0	......	......	11·2	16·8	16·0	......	30·2
Hughli	Hughli and Chinsurah	...	6	32	...	...	...	9·9	91·8	...	...	2	1	2	2	1	1	4	2	2	2	55·1	10·5	20·5	31·4	17·5	8·7	29·4	29·3	51·5	43·8
Hughli	Serampore	...	37	7	...	...	...	70·2	338·1	...	...	5	4	2	4	4	4	4	10	4	2	330·2	175·2	82·1	93·7	55·5	36·6	41·9	144·3	108·6	74·8
	Uttarpara	...	2	—	...	...	...	19·5	...	...	...	—	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	......	......	......	109·0	......	......	42·0	......	......	......
Howrah	Howrah	...	34	11	...	...	...	24·6	27·9	...	...	6	5	3	1	2	14	6	6	4	1	151·2	46·8	24·5	7·9	14·8	22·0	18·2	23·1	37·9	13·9
	Bali	...	1	...	...	...	...	8·9	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	......	......	......	......	......	13·4	......	......	......	......
24-Pergunnahs	Suburbs of Calcutta	5	141	91	1	...	61·2	45·9	40·0	400·4	...	22	20	15	5	20	63	59	30	14	37	240·1	83·7	30·4	14·3	37·1	43·7	30·8	30·6	41·9	63·1
[illegible]	Kishnaghur	...	5	5	...	...	...	14·0	18·3	...	...	4	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	2	1	419·4	......	......	18·3	......	......	12·1	......	24·7	20·1
	Ranaghat	...	1	...	...	...	...	7·3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	......	......	......	......	......	......	......	......	71·0	......
	Santipore	...	2	3	...	...	...	6·0	11·6	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	193·1	......	......	......	......	10·6	......	......	22·6	......
[illegible]	Jessore	...	15	3	...	...	...	109·9	40·1	...	...	2	2	2	3	...	2	4	...	...	1	330·1	210·5	149·1	234·6	......	51·6	138·0	......	......	118·8
[illegible]	Rampore Beauleah	...	6	30	...	...	...	81·5	190·8	...	...	3	1	5	...	...	5	8	5	14	1	296·5	56·7	73·0	......	......	65·0	128·4	108·4	580·6	54·9
[illegible]	Darjiling	...	1	...	...	...	...	11·3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	......	......	......	......	81·3	......	......	......	......	......
[illegible]	Dacca	...	21	13	...	...	...	17·1	15·9	...	...	6	1	2	3	3	6	3	4	2	7	157·4	7·1	10·5	19·6	7·1	20·4	8·9	34·3	22·0	68·3
	Naraingunj	...	17	6	...	...	...	136·9	67·5	...	...	6	1	3	2	...	6	3	3	...	1	1,113·3	46·8	115·1	51·0	......	110·9	72·3	112·0	......	79·8
[illegible]	Chittagong	...	9	15	...	...	...	35·9	21·4	...	...	...	1	4	3	...	4	1	2	2	2	......	58·4	89·1	60·5	......	64·9	48·0	46·1	20·9	69·8
[illegible]	Comillah	...	5	5	...	...	...	42·7	61·1	...	...	...	2	1	1	5	...	...	2	...	...	......	119·3	34·9	34·6	31·5	......	......	79·4	......	......
[illegible]	Patna City	...	36	12	...	...	...	38·8	25·3	...	...	11	2	4	3	3	2	6	3	2	11	332·7	17·8	12·4	14·8	14·0	3·6	15·4	5·3	7·5	47·4
[illegible]	Gya	...	30	16	...	...	...	39·9	51·3	...	...	12	2	1	2	2	1	3	5	4	12	519·6	53·7	7·4	15·5	10·9	3·5	15·3	10·6	37·6	131·2
[illegible]	Arrah	...	6	14	...	...	...	30·1	56·3	...	...	1	3	...	1	1	1	1	2	2	6	40·4	35·2	......	31·8	10·5	6·6	5·1	15·2	33·6	168·8
[illegible]	Mozufferpore	...	3	3	...	...	...	8·2	12·3	...	...	...	4	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	......	51·5	......	......	......	......	7·5	10·4	......	......
[illegible]	Durbhunga	...	33	13	...	...	...	33·4	44·4	...	...	15	8	5	3	1	3	6	2	2	4	691·0	51·7	83·2	18·6	12·9	7·8	25·0	11·0	33·6	68·1
[illegible]	Chupra	...	5	...	...	...	...	7·8	...	...	...	1	1	...	...	...	...	1	1	3	1	30·0	9·3	......	......	......	......	6·4	6·5	13·3	14·0
[illegible]	Bhagulpore	...	12	5	...	...	...	15·7	24·1	...	...	8	2	...	2	...	...	3	...	1	6	261·3	12·2	......	16·5	......	......	10·5	......	12·2	36·6
[illegible]	Monghyr	...	14	6	...	...	...	17·8	24·6	...	...	3	2	...	1	1	1	3	2	1	3	185·1	16·7	......	6·1	15·8	6·0	17·5	16·3	13·1	40·8
[illegible]	Purneah	...	6	4	...	...	...	36·9	38·7	...	...	1	3	...	...	1	...	1	2	...	3	163·7	88·1	......	......	52·5	......	19·2	14·0	......	155·0
[illegible]	Puri	...	4	...	...	...	...	17·4	...	...	...	2	1	2	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	343·2	24·9	48·4	......	......	......	12·3	......	......	47·0
	TOTAL ...	5	476	232	1	...	21·7	36·7	37·4	24·2	...	111	82	62	38	41	100	103	73	61	85	194·4	38·9	30·6	17·2	21·4	30·0	33·9	29·7	38·0	45·6

K. P. GUPTA, M.B., F.R.C.S., *Surgeon-Major,*
Offg. Sanitary Commissioner for Bengal.

CIRCULAR AND EASTERN CANALS.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending Saturday, the 28th April 1888, as compared with the corresponding week of the previous year.

Nature of Cargo.	Week ending Saturday, the 28th April 1888.			Week ending Saturday, the 30th April 1887.		
	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.	Number of boats.	Weight of cargo.	Tollage.
	No.	Mds.	Rs.	No.	Mds.	Rs.
Rice and paddy	311	87,260	1,346	310	52,166	934
Jute	8	3,760	57	9	5,175	73
Firewood	91	46,185	665	46	18,382	272
Other articles	671	1,46,700	2,170	611	1,46,885	2,038
Total ...	1,081	2,82,845	4,238	976	2,22,608	3,317

Bengal Central Railway.

Abstract of principal commodities carried over the Bengal Central Railway during the month of January 1888, as compared with the same month of the previous year.

STAPLES.	1888.		1887.		Total.		Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	1888.	1887.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Coal	2,638	.....	1,301	1	2,639	1,302	1,336	.....
Cotton, raw	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	.....
Cotton piece-goods—								
1.—European—								
a.—In bales and bundles								
b.—In boxes								
2.—Indian—								
a.—In bales and bundles								
b.—In boxes	148	1	129	1	149	130	19	.....
Drugs and Chemicals—								
1.—Intoxicating other than opium								
2.—Non-intoxicating								
a.—Cinchona bark								
b.—Others								
Grains—								
3.—Rice	3	926	2	318	929	320	609	.....
5.—Others	16	174	51	11	190	62	128	.....
Hides and skins—								
1.—Hides of cattle—								
a.—Dressed								
b.—Undressed								
2.—Skins of sheep, &c.—								
a.—Dressed								
b.—Undressed								
Horns		35	.....	35	35	35	.....	.....
Jute—								
1.—Raw—								
b.—Unscrewed	.....	213	.....	201	213	201	12	.....
2.—Gunny-bags and cloth	13	1	5	2	14	7	7	.....
Metals—								
1.—Copper, unwrought								
2.—Brass, unwrought								
3.—Brass and copper, wrought	54	28	50	47	82	100	.....	[illegible]
4.—Iron								
5.—Tin								
6.—Others								
Oils—								
2.—Kerosine	59	.....	60	.....	59	60	.....	1
3.—Others	105	.....	52	.....	105	33	72	.....
Oilseeds—								
1.—Linseed								
2.—Rape and mustard								
3.—Til or gingelly								
4.—Niger								
5.—Castor	72	.....	195	.....	72	195	.....	123
6.—Poppy								
7.—Others								
Opium								
Provisions—								
2.—Betel-nuts	2	300	...	141	302	141	161	.....
3.—Others	145	140	150	104	285	254	.....	9
Railway plant and rolling-stock	136	47	13	159	183	216	.....	31
Salt	177	.....	157	.....	177	157	20	.....
Sugar—								
1.—Drained	5	355	22	61	360	83	274	.....
2.—Undrained								
Wood								
1.—Timber	11	23	14	21	34	35	.....	1
2.—Firewood								
Tobacco	30	.....	20	4	30	24	6	.....
All other articles of merchandise—								
1.—Unmanufactured	103	70	187	165	203	352	.....	80
Total	3,751	2,271	2,425	1,264	6,022	3,607	2,643	278

Comparative Statement of the principal commodities carried over the Bengal Central Railway during the month of January 1888.

INCREASES.

	Tons.
Coal	1,336
For Railway and Flotilla purposes principally.	
Rice	609
Singia, Newspura and Khulna contributed this increase.	
Betelnuts	161
Almost exclusively from Bengal Central Flotilla stations, Khulna showing a decrease of about 30 tons.	
Sugar	274
From Gokerdanga and Dukergacha principally.	

DECREASES.

The decreases under all heads are insignificant, aggregating only 278 tons.

CALCUTTA, *the 19th March* 1888.

F. P. QUINLAN, *Examiner of Accounts.*

Nalhati State Railway.

Statement showing Increases and Decreases in tonnage of Staples carried over the Nalhati State Railway during the month of March 1888, as compared with the same month of the previous year.

Staples.	1887.		1888.		1887.	1888.	Increase.	Decrease.
	Up.	Down.	Up.	Down.	Total.	Total.		
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Coal	1,031	.....	856	.....	1,031	856	.....	204
Cotton, raw	4	.....	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	4
Cotton twist and yarn—								
1.—European	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Cotton piece-goods—								
1.—European	31	.....	54	1	30	55	19	.....
Drugs and chemicals—								
2.—Non-intoxicating—								
b. Others	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Jute—								
1.—Raw	1	44	.....	.....	45	.....	.....	45
3.—Gunny-bags and cloths	17	4	10	10	21	20	.....	1
Grains—								
1.—Wheat	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	7	7	.....
2.—Rice	101	913	26	1,098	1,014	1,124	109	.....
4.—Gram	.....	.....	.....	23	.....	23	23	.....
5.—Others	4	25	15	34	29	49	20	.....
Hides and skins—								
1.—Hides of cattle—								
a.—Dressed	4	6	.....	5	10	5	.....	5
2.—Skins of sheep, goats and small animal—								
a.—Dressed	.....	1	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
b.—Undressed	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....
Lac—								
1.—Stick	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2	2	.....
Leather, manufactured	.....	.....	4	.....	.....	4	4	.....
Liquors—								
1.—Beer	1	.....	1	.....	1	1	.....	.....
2.—Wines	1	.....	2	.....	1	2	1	.....
Metals—								
1.—Copper, unwrought	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
2.—Iron	6	.....	3	.....	6	3	.....	3
4.—Others	10	3	10	2	13	12	.....	1
Oils—								
1.—Castor	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
2.—Kerosine	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2	2	.....
3.—Others	1	.....	4	.....	1	4	3	.....
Provisions—								
1.—Flour	4	.....	4	.....	4	4	.....	.....
2.—Dried fruits and nuts	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
3.—Others	.....	3	7	.....	3	7	4	.....
Railway plant and rolling-stock	18	3	11	9	21	20	.....	1
Salt	12	.....	49	.....	12	49	37	.....
Oilseeds—								
1.—Linseed	.....	.....	1	12	.....	13	13	.....
2.—Mustard and rape	202	.....	249	.....	202	249	47	.....
3.—Others	6	.....	25	21	6	47	41	.....
Silk, raw								
2.—Indian	46	5	33	27	51	60	7	.....
Spices—								
1.—Pepper	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
Stone and lime	.....	.....	11	.....	.....	11	11	.....
Sugar—								
1.—Unrefined	25	.....	31	.....	25	31	.....	6
2.—Refined	.....	.....	8	.....	.....	8	8	.....
Tobacco	.....	.....	17	1	.....	18	18	.....
Wool—								
1.—Raw	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2	2	.....
2.—Piece-goods—								
b.—Indian	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2	2	.....
Paper and pasteboard	2	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	.....	2
Umbrellas	1	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	.....	1
All other articles of merchandise	84	26	110	26	80	141	61	.....
Total	1,623	1,059	1,610	1,296	2,682	2,906	525	276

Increase.

	Tons.
Cotton piece-goods—	
(1) European	19

This increase is due to steamer not running between Jeaganj and Calcutta, the river being dry.

Grains—	
(1) Wheat	7
(2) Rice	109
(4) Gram	23
(5) Others	20

The increase is due to steamer not running between Jeaganj and Calcutta, the river being dry; and to greater despatches from intermediate stations owing to good crops and favourable demands.

Salt	37

This increase is due to steamer not running between Jeaganj and Calcutta, the river being dry.

Oilseeds—	
(1) Linseed	13
(2) Mustard and rape	47
(3) Others	41

This increase is due to river communication being stopped for want of water.

Stone and lime	11

This increase is due to more lime carried for building purposes.

Tobacco	18

This increase is due to river communication being stopped for want of water.

All other articles of merchandise	61

This increase is due to steamers not running between Jeaganj and Calcutta.

Decrease.

Coal	204

This decrease is due to brick-burning coming to a close.

Jute—	
(1) Raw	45

This decrease is due to no jute being carried for low market rate.

E. G. Mookerjee, *Manager, Nalhati State Railway.*

Weekly Return of Traffic Receipts on Indian Railways.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st April 1888, on 1,513¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week	252,903*	3,10,486 12 [illegible]	29,86,877 10	7,18,707 8 [illegible]	17,500 0 0	10,47,889 12 [illegible]	84,711½	103,212	173,22[illegible]
Or per mile of railway	.....	205 1 11	.....	475 8 1	11 12 0	692 4 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15 weeks of half-year	3,958,580	46,47,303 3 [illegible]	4,17,42,635 10	98,93,210 8 4	3,33,165 1 10	1,48,93,658 13 2	1,080,988	1,584,701	2,665,69[illegible]
Total for 16 weeks ...	4,211,483	49,57,790 15 0	4,46,49,512 20	1,06,12,918 1 1	3,50,665 9 10	1,59,42,538 9 11	1,165,671½	1,672,913	2,838,58[illegible]
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	238,541½	2,85,013 13 2	29,39,415 30	7,10,282 8 [illegible]	20,288 1 1	10,23,824 6 6	67,937	122,071	189,10[illegible]
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	.....	186 11 8	.....	473 13 8	13 8 10	674 0 2	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	4,005,627	47,06,864 11 6	4,29,01,379 30	1,00,34,630 13 2	3,02,219 8 5	1,50,37,612 0 11	1,169,302	1,805,144	2,900,06[illegible]

* The increase in Coaching traffic is principally due to the running of troop extra trains from Howrah.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the East Indian Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 22nd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 21st April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 22nd April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 21st April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
1,519	10,23,824	674	1,513½	10,47,890	692	1,519	32,83,169	723	1,513½	30,76,018	678	.....	3,16,21[illegible]

PATNA-GYA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st April 1888, on 57¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	15,[illegible]	8,185 0 0	46,[illegible] 20	4,151 7 [illegible]	43 8 0	12,379 15 0	1,[illegible]	713	[illegible]
Or per mile of railway	277	143 1 [illegible]	821 20	72 9 3	0 12 2	216 6 11	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15 weeks of half-year	228,161	1,25,228 3 0	5,31,849 20	76,323 10 6	715 3 0	1,01,267 4 6	27,591	6,061	33,[illegible]
Total for 16 weeks ...	244,749	1,33,413 [illegible] 0	5,80,585 0	80,475 1 0	758 10 3	1,13,647 8 5	29,272	6,874	36,[illegible]
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	12,137	6,376 3 10	57,481 10	4,196 10 6	24 3 9	6,597 0 10	1,507	1,283	[illegible]
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	212½	111 15 10	1,005 10	73 8 11	0 8 9	187 12 8	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	235,340½	1,27,220 13 0	9,90,743 0	55,674 13 9	968 7 0	1,83,779 2 9	37,232	16,734	53,[illegible]

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Patna-Gya State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 22nd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 21st April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 22nd April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 21st April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
57¼	2,597	103	57¼	12,3[illegible]	216	57¼	[illegible]	207	57¼	[illegible]	[illegible]	.....	[illegible]

DILDARNAGAR-GHAZIPUR STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st April 1888, on 12 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	8,036	554 10 0	21,671 0	638 2 0	12 8 0	1,205 4 0	340½	153	493½
Or per mile of railway	.....	46 3 0	.....	53 2 10	1 0 8	100 7 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 16 weeks of half-year	44,612	7,477 11 0	3,41,259 20	6,807 0 0	178 3 0	14,563 1 0	5,674½	2,328	7,902½
Total for 16 weeks ...	47,887	8,032 8 0	3,46,230 20	7,555 2 0	190 11 0	15,768 5 0	6,015	2,481	7,896
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	3,472½	579 2 0	21,032 30	628 14 0	11 5 3	1,219 5 3	344	170	514
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	48 4 2	.....	52 3 8	0 15 1	101 9 3	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	47,903½	8,956 15 9	3,29,120 10	8,270 8 0	132 13 3	15,150 5 0	5,290	2,270	7,560

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Dildarnagar-Ghazipur State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 23rd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 21st April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 23rd April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 21st April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
12	1,219	102	12	1,205	100	12	3,656	101	12	3,165	88	..	[illegible]

SINDIA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st April 1888, on 74½ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	5,360	4,499 0 0	81,061 30	3,292 12 0	126 0 0	7,918 4 0	629	1,209	1,838
Or per mile of railway	.....	60 2 8	.....	43 13 [illegible]	1 10 11	105 11 8	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15 weeks of half-year	77,778	57,146 13 0	13,70,061 10	62,701 12 0	1,816 8 0	1,21,658 1 0	10,125½	22,367	32,492½
Total for 16 weeks ...	83,147	61,646 0 0	14,41,143 0	65,977 11 0	1,942 8 0	1,29,566 5 0	10,777½	23,576	34,354½
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	6,827	4,383 5 0	13,100 0	3,512 4 0	56 12 9	8,581 6 3	754	1,191	1,945
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	65 3 11	.....	48 4 5	1 4 9	114 13 4	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	94,103½	71,629 1 9	16,82,847 20	76,057 2 0	1,791 23 3	1,19,478 1 0	12,271	20,727	32,961

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Sindia State Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI, Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 23rd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 21st April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 23rd April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 21st April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
74½	[illegible]	116	74½	7,900	106	74½	30,161	115	74½	25,062	105	..	4,099

TARKESSUR BRANCH RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 21st April 1888, on 22¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Total traffic for the week ...	20,044	6,077 1 0	8,121 10	312 7 0	10 0 0	6,399 8 0	897	71	968
Do. per mile of railway ...	.....	255 2 5	.....	14 0 8	0 7 2	269 10 3	.....	.....	..
For previous 15 weeks of half-year	337,599	91,490 1 0	1,28,974 20	4,569 2 0	103 12 0	96,164 3 0	13,433	1,209	14,642
Total for 16 weeks ...	358,243	97,077 5 0	1,37,097 30	4,881 9 0	114 13 0	1,02,563 11 0	14,285	1,279	15,564
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	16,417½	4,925 9 4	7,029 30	261 0 0	5 10 0	5,192 3 0	990	62	1,052
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	.....	218 10 10	.....	11 11 8	0 4 1	230 10 7	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	312,908	90,812 13 11	1,39,420 20	4,681 15 0	100 2 8	95,595 15 8	15,177	791	16,258

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Tarkessur Branch Railway, prepared in accordance with Public Works Department Circular No. XXI. Railway, dated 23rd July 1883.

Receipts for week ending 23rd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 21st April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 23rd April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 21st April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
22½	5,719	257	22½	6,000	270	22½	22,005	978	22½	26,338	402	1,833	.....

EASTERN BENGAL STATE RAILWAY.

(Including N. B., Dacca, K. and D., and Assam-Behar Sections.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 676 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated), including steam-boat.	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Total traffic for the week ...	115,873	56,076 0 0	2,26,000 0	69,287 0 0	21,400 0 0	1,37,100 0 0	21,000	18,000	40,000
Do. per mile of railway	170	83 0 0	335 0	103 0 0	2 0 0†	204 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15 weeks of half-year	1,917,160	10,90,013 0 0	70,12,571 0	11,34,732 0 0	2,55,900 0 0	24,47,005 0 0*	315,387	821,895	657,282
Total for 16 weeks ...	1,932,033	11,42,088 0 0	72,47,571 0	12,04,317 0 0	2,55,900 0 0	25,84,205 0 0	337,003	841,276	678,279
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year ...	110,372	53,806 0 0	2,65,914 0	74,094 0 0	9,795 0 0	1,36,845 0 0	20,592	17,052	38,054
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	171	83 0 0	560 0	115 0 0	1 0 0†	199 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	2,051,593	9,91,808 0 0	84,62,000 0	12,12,650 0 0	1,06,490 0 0	23,00,946 0 0	292,407	812,145	851,000

* Audited up to week ending 10th March 1888.
† Excluding steamer earnings.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of Gross Receipts of the Eastern Bengal State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 23rd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 14th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888-89.	Total decrease in 1888-89.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
675	1,[illegible]	212	676	1,32,100	196	668	5,10,256	247	676	1,64,039	211	.....	46,100

BENGAL CENTRAL RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 195 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	22,471	7,676 0 0	52,435 0	4,186 0 0	50 0 0	11,912 0 0	3,517	1,957	5,574
Or per mile of railway	180	61 0 0	419 0	33 0 0	1 0 0	95 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	304,872	1,31,710 0 0	7,46,783 0	52,394 0 0	3,595 0 0	1,87,388 0 0*	40,425	33,849	74,294
Total for 15 weeks ...	327,343	1,39,475 0 0	7,99,218 0	56,580 0 0	3,675 0 0	1,99,300 0 0	43,942	34,770	78,712
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding period of previous year ...	22,598	7,214 0 0	12,985 0	3,102 0 0	31 0 0	10,317 0 0	3,595	1,096	6,210
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	178	56 0 0	513 0	25 0 0	.....	81 0 0	...	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	384,720	1,34,125 0 0	5,81,045 0	38,294 0 0	7,56 0 0	1,70,135 0 0	43,720	35,976	79,172

* Audited up to week ending 10th March 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Bengal Central Railway.

Receipts for week ending 10th April 1888.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 14th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888-89.	Total decrease in 1888-89.
Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
125	10,317	83	126	11,912	95	125	27,225	109	126	25,577	101	.....	1,648

DACCA STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 86 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. s.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week ...	13,183	4,487 0 0	5,475 0	833 0 0	104 0 0	5,414 0 0	2,301	803	3,104
Or per mile of railway	153	51 0 0	64 0	10 0 0	1 0 0	62 0 0	...	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	193,137	60,264 0 0	2,40,155 0	13,290 0 0	2,565 0 0	76,119 0 0*	29,195	13,553	42,748
Total for 15 weeks ...	206,320	64,751 0 0	2,45,630 0	14,124 0 0	2,669 0 0	81,533 0 0	31,496	14,356	45,852
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	12,198	3,703 0 0	5,061 0	826 0 0	110 0 0	4,639 0 0	2,011	770	2,781
Per mile of railway corresponding period of previous year ...	141	43 0 0	59 0	10 0 0	1 0 0	54 0 0	.....	.....	...
Total to corresponding date of previous year	220,537	69,812 0 0	2,78,258 0	24,170 0 0	3,018 0 0	96,400 0 0	33,501	17,291	50,791

* Audited up to week ending 10th March 1888.

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Dacca State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 10th April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 14th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888-89.	Total decrease in 1888-89.
Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
86	[illegible]	84	86	5,341	62	86	12,864	75	86	10,423	61	.....	2,439

ASSAM-BEHAR STATE RAILWAY.

(Purnea Section.)

Approximate Return of Traffic for week ended 14th April 1888, on 39 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Total traffic for the week	2,795	783 0 0	28,[illegible]7 0	2,717 0 0	91 0 0	3,590 0 0	516	648	1,164
Or per mile of railway ...	70	19 0 0	720 0	70 0 0	....	89 0 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 14 weeks of half-year	16,290	14,257 0 0	3,30,155 0	28,144 0 0	678 0 0	43,270 0 0	7,644	7,014	15,[illegible]
Total for 28 weeks ...	43,085	15,040 0 0	3,58,882 0	31,161 0 0	769 0 0	46,730 0 0	8,160	8,162	16,[illegible]
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year ...	2,321	758 0 0	21,151 0	3,255 0 0	18 0 0	4,032 0 0	590	539	1,[illegible]
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	60	20 0 0	542 0	80 0 0	1 0 0	111 0 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	5,376	1,878 0 0	46,304 0	6,194 0 0	44 0 0	8,054 0 0	1,232	1,232	2,[illegible]

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Assam-Behar State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Receipts for week ending 14th April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 14th April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 14th April 1888.			Total increase in 1888 Rs.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	..	
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.
39	1,[illegible]	114	39	3,[illegible]	89	39	3,054	103	39	3,125	80	.....	1,121

NALHATI STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 21st April 1888, on 27¼ miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. a. p.	Mds. s.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.			
Total traffic for the week	2,005½	1,056 9 0	2,274 0	377 8 0	11 16 0	1,465 12 0	889	234	701
Per mile of railway	16	39 8 0	183 0	13 14 0	0 7 0	53 14 0	.....	.....	.....
For previous 15 weeks of half-year	40,153½	18,283 6 3	2,61,319 6	14,122 8 0	351 6 0	32,757 4 3	7,050	7,501½	15,13[illegible]
Total for 16 weeks	42,159	19,340 0 0	2,63,577 0	14,500 0 0	363 0 0	34,223 0 0	8,144	7,735½	15,880½
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year	2,124	1,474 12 0	5,930 20	470 5 0	0 6 0	1,950 7 0	560	233	793
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year	105	70 5 0	292 0	17 4 0	0 5 0	86 14 0	.....	.....	.....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	48,743	18,267 7 0	2,22,342 20	12,450 7 11	446 13 4	31,162 10 3	8,215	6,735	15,950

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Nalhati State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 22nd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 21st April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 22nd April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 21st April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean miles worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
27½	1,[illegible]	57	27½	1,4[illegible]	54	27½	6,110	46	27½	1,[illegible]	44	43	—

TIRHOOT STATE RAILWAY.

Approximate Return of Traffic for the week ending 21st April 1888, on 250 miles open.

	Coaching Traffic.		Merchandise and Mineral Traffic.		Other earnings (estimated).	Total earnings.	Traffic Train-miles run.		
	Number of passengers.	Coaching receipts.	Weight carried.	Receipts.			Coaching.	Merchandise.	Total.
		Rs. A. P.	Mds. S.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.			
Total traffic for the week on 250 miles open	47,603½	10,314 9 7	1,63,056 6	18,021 2 6	3,370 10 1*	32,705 13 2	5,671	5,907	11,571
Per mile of railway	184	42 0 0	650 0	69 9 0	2 13 0	1 4 0 0*	.....	.....	..
For previous 15 weeks of half-year	632,542½	2,54,601 15 6	20,56,856 0	3,22,303 13 6	45,332 5 11	6,22,238 2 10	91,289	125,232	216,521
Total for 16 weeks ...	686,840	2,71,896 0 0	21,19,912 0	3,40,325 0 0	48,703 0 0	6,00,537 0 0	99,963	129,139	228,092
Comparison.									
Total for corresponding week of previous year on 240 miles open	28,885½	13,014 2 5	1,57,433 0	15,795 4 0	2,816 12 10	32,626 3 5	5,165	5,887	11,052
Per mile of railway corresponding week of previous year ...	140	55 14 0	673 0	65 7 0	9 15 0	126 3 5*	.....	.....	....
Total to corresponding date of previous year	605,957	2,38,100 4 0	25,10,654 30	2,50,956 14 6	48,811 2 9	6,16,933 0 0	88,577	91,243	181,710

* Steam-boat earnings excluded in calculating "Total earnings per mile of Railway."

FINANCIAL YEAR.

Approximate Statement of gross receipts of the Tirhoot State Railway.

Receipts for week ending 22nd April 1887.			Receipts for week ending 21st April 1888.			Total receipts from 1st April 1887 to 22nd April 1887.			Total receipts from 1st April 1888 to 21st April 1888.			Total increase in 1888.	Total decrease in 1888.
Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Receipts.	Per mile worked.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.	Mean mileage worked.	Total receipts.	Per mile worked per week.		
	Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	
240	32,320	132	229	37,709	165	240	95,207	127	229	1,04,740	135	9,541	.....

DARJEELING-HIMALAYAN RAILWAY COMPANY, LIMITED.

	Rs.
Approximate earnings for week ending 14th April 1888	9,215
Corresponding week last year	8,968
Increase	247
Receipts from 1st January to 14th April 1888	1,24,132
From 1st January to 16th April 1887	1,04,458
Increase	19,674
	Miles.
Miles open, week ending 14th April 1888	51
Corresponding week last year	51
	Rs. A. P.
Receipts per mile open, week ending 14th April 1888	180 14 [illegible]
Corresponding week last year	175 13 7
Increase	4 13 7

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OFFICIAL PAPERS.

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CONTENTS.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 67.

THE Council met at the Council Chamber on Wednesday, the 18th April, 1888, at 11 A.M.

Present:

The HON. SIR STEUART COLVIN BAYLEY, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *presiding*.
The HON. H. J. REYNOLDS, C.S.I.
The HON. C. P. L. MACAULAY, C.I.E.
The HON. T. T. ALLEN.
The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON, KT.
The HON. SIR ALFRED CROFT, K.C.I.E.
The HON. MOULVIE ABDUL JUBBAR.
The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER.
The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, C.I.E.
The HON. C. H. MOORE.
The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE.
The HON. H. PRATT.

CALCUTTA AND SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITIES AMALGAMATION BILL.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—Before we commence the work of the day, I think I ought to inform the Council that yesterday I received a deputation of some leading gentlemen of Calcutta, who were deputed on the part of a public meeting held last week at the Town Hall to submit a memorial

protesting against a number of the provisions of the Municipal Bill that is before you. Many of the points to which they have objected have already been decided by the Council; there are others which are still waiting for the Council to consider. A copy of the memorial and of my reply will be laid before you to-day, but I should tell you that in my reply I thought it necessary to say, in regard to those sections which have already been debated by the Council, and in respect of which decisions have been come, seeing that a Select Committee, consisting first of seven and subsequently of nine out of twelve members of the Council, have already through two Sessions made two separate careful investigations and examinations of the Bill—I say that, considering the constitution of the Council with relation to the Select Committee, I thought it would be scarcely consistent with proper respect towards the Council if I were to ask them without fresh arguments being put forward to reconsider their decisions. At the same time, if I should hear of any desire on the part of the Council to take up any of the points already decided, I shall not let any technical objection stand in the way. I think it right that this should be mentioned to you and the memorial placed before you in case the Council wishes to express any views or desires on the point.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that the clauses of the Bill to consolidate and amend the law relating to the Municipal affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, as further amended, be further considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I may be out of order, but perhaps your Honour will not object to my saying a few words on one point of the Building Regulations, with reference to section 233 and the recent accident in Kyd Street, so that if any members consider an amendment of the law ought to be made, they should have an opportunity of bringing it forward. A similar accident occurred some time ago, and the Coroner's jury having made some remarks as to the functions of the Municipality with respect to such buildings, we took legal advice, and the opinion clearly expressed by the Solicitors to the Corporation was that the present section does not impose any obligation of an inquisitorial character with regard to buildings which are not dangerous to a highway. The Government thought it expedient to take further opinion on the subject, and the opinion of the learned Advocate-General was to the same effect. Therefore in preparing this Bill it was fully considered whether it was desirable to impose any further obligations, and, as far as I am concerned, it was deliberately decided that it was not expedient to do so. I wish to draw attention to the distinction between watching over the safety of all buildings and of those which are absolutely dangerous to the public safety. But in case any hon. member thinks that the Corporation should have an obligation imposed on them with reference to all buildings, whether dangerous to the public safety or also to the inmates, I draw attention to the provisions of section 233, so that members may have an opportunity of proposing an amendment if desired.

In accordance with the instructions received from the Government of India, which your Honour explained to the Council two meetings ago, in the amendment which I now propose by way of addition to section 37 of the Bill I have endeavoured to embody the views and wishes of the Government of India. It makes no change in the intentions of the Government in framing the law, but it makes it obligatory upon the Corporation by law always to spend three lakhs of rupees annually—equivalent approximately to the town police rate—on the improvement of the added area. The following amendment does nothing more than reduce to words the obligations which it is always understood that the Corporation would undertake. Accordingly I move that the following clause be added to section 37:—

"(7). Devote to the improvement of the area newly added to Calcutta by this Act not less than three lakhs of rupees annually from the receipts of the revenue funds described in sections one hundred and two, one hundred and three, and one hundred and five of this Act.

Provided that the instalments of interest and reserve fund payable on any capital sum expended under clauses (3), (4) and (5) of this section for the improvement of that area shall be taken as part of the three lakhs of rupees."

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter said :—As the amendment is worded, it is not open to any other objection than this. By an earlier clause (3) of the section an obligation is imposed on the Commissioners to spend two lakhs for drainage and bustees. So far as the drainage works of the town are concerned, they are almost completed now, and probably in another year or two there will be no appreciable expenditure on those works. And as regards the improvement of bustees, I believe in the course of another year the improvements contemplated three years ago at an estimate of Rs. 7,50,000 will also be completed. Therefore the greater part of these two lakhs will after a year or two be available for the improvement of the added area. That being so, is it desirable to make it obligatory to spend a further sum of Rs. 3,00,000, making Rs. 5,00,000 in all, for the improvement of the added area? As far as I understand the obligation, it has reference only to the contribution on account of Police. Such relief, without going to the benefit of the rate-payers, was originally intended to go to the benefit of the town; but since the question of the amalgamation has come up, it was decided to appropriate it for the improvement of the added area. That has been throughout the understanding, and I am quite willing that that understanding should be made clear by the law to save any misunderstanding hereafter. But if it is put in the form proposed, without having regard to clause (3), it might be that it will be obligatory to spend five lakhs on the Suburbs, which is far more than what was contemplated.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said in reply :—It appears to me that clause (3) must stand on its own merits and it was passed without objection, being mainly taken from the existing law. Instead of an obligation to spend Rs. 1,50,000, as in the existing law, on drainage, the Corporation is required to spend Rs 2,00,000 on drainage and bustees. No doubt something should be done to drain the Suburbs. How much is a difficult question, whether Rs. 200,00,000 or 50, 40 or 30 lakhs, which is an inside estimate. The system of drainage remains to be decided on the best advice available. Still a considerable sum must be spent for a considerable time, and that is the reason why bustee improvement is thrown in with drainage. My hon. friend is correct in supposing that it would mainly be spent on the added area. The interest, &c., on the sums thus borrowed will be part of the three lakhs

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved that in section 155 the words "five thousand gallons" be substituted for "three thousand gallons"; and that the words "through a ferrule, the size of which is to be determined by the Commissioners in meeting" be substituted for the words "through a ferrule of the size indicated in the ninth schedule."

He said :—The matter which I have to place before the Council is one of very great importance, and I have no doubt that it will receive from my hon. colleagues that consideration which it fully deserves. The question, as I understand it, is this. Whether the supply of water to the town within a given time should be reduced, for, broadly speaking, the reduction in the size of the ferrule will have that effect. Before a question of this sort can be fairly discussed and settled, it is absolutely necessary that independent opinion should be had from experts eminently qualified to advise in a matter of this kind. Undoubtedly the note submitted by the hon. member in charge of the Bill is a valuable document, and it should deserve consideration as coming from one who by virtue of his position is qualified to express an opinion; but no further. It should not be accepted as conclusive on the point and as justifying this Council in making a change in the law which must operate with very great disadvantage to the poorer classes. The literature of the water-supply of the town is rather extensive, and any one who has studied it will be struck with some of the features that have exhibited themselves from time to time, and generally it will afford this instruction, that the executive officers of the present Corporation and of the late Justices, who were entrusted with the duty of supervising the works, have not been able to give the satisfaction which was expected. That position I think even my hon. friend the member in charge of the Bill will admit. It is a notorious fact that when the 42-inch main was laid by the Justices, they did so under an agreement by which an eminent firm undertook to lay the main so as to bear a certain amount of pressure. When

the work was completed, pressure was applied to a portion of the main and the whole thing burst; and on advice being taken from experts, they unanimously advised the Justices not to test the main at all, but to take it over as a bad job. The result was that the main was taken over without having been laid in the way contracted, and it was not capable of bearing the pressure which it was intended to bear. Again when the extension of the water-supply was taken into consideration, various questions came up for discussion. Questions of great importance were submitted to experts; opinions were obtained, and ultimately the Committee of the Commissioners appointed to consider the subject submitted a report which was confirmed by the Commissioners, and the works were begun. But there was one striking feature above all others. When the extension works were first contemplated, the advice of the Engineer was that there should be a brick culvert of 60 inches diameter, and the Committee then appointed accepted it. It was placed before the Commissioners in meeting, who sent it back for further consideration, and some time after, when Mr Kinsler, the present incumbent, obtained leave to go to England, Mr. Buckley was appointed to act for him. Mr. Buckley, on looking over the various papers in connection with the water-supply scheme, advised that it would be better to have an open cut instead of a brick culvert. The two questions were discussed in all their phases; they were submitted to experts, and their opinions were obtained But at the very last moment the Chairman suggested that a 48-inch iron main would serve the purpose best. I was one of the Commissioners who opposed this suggestion on the ground that the supply would not be sufficient for the town, that it would be necessary to have a still larger supply than what was contemplated, and that it would be a mistake to be satisfied with a 48-inch main. I was in the minority. But at my instance it was agreed that the main should be so laid as to be capable of bearing a pressure of 100 feet. Perhaps it would be well to explain what is meant by a pressure of 100 feet. The water was to be raised to a height of 100 feet at Pultah and then forced into the main, instead of being allowed merely to flow down by gravitation. Up to a very late period the Commissioners were under the impression that the main was being laid so as to be capable of bearing this pressure; but it was all a delusion. When the time came for testing the main, it was successfully pointed out that it would be more economical to have a third main than to run the main under a pressure of 100 feet. The majority of the Commissioners adopted that view, and the main, after undergoing a certain test which by all was admitted to be insufficient if the main was to be worked under a pressure of 100 feet, but sufficient if it was not to be worked under that pressure, was put into use. There the question remained. Therefore I say that the question of the water-supply is not free from difficulties; it is not one in regard to which the public would be justified in putting implicit confidence in the statements of the executive officers. It is one which should be narrowly enquired into before any change in the law is adopted. The note of my hon. friend shows that, whereas under the present law the maximum supply to which a person is entitled is at the rate of 1,500 gallons for every rupee of taxation paid by him, the average present supply to the whole town is at the rate of 5,500 gallons to the rupee; but he proposes to allow only 3,000 gallons for the rupee. Is this equitable or just? I say that the people are not getting sufficient for the money they are paying. My hon. friend admitted at the last meeting that the average cost of filtered water was 2 annas or 2½ annas for every thousand gallons. In providing filtered water to the town the Corporation was not acting on commercial principles. They took the rate-payers' money for constructing the works and for providing a Sinking fund for the liquidation of the loan, and it could not therefore be said that they are selling water to the town. They are only giving the town what they are entitled to have, and if we give them 5,000 gallons for the rupee they will not get more than they have paid for. My hon. friend complains that the standard of 1,500 gallons has become a dead letter, and it is quite right that it should. Why should the people who have paid for the water-supply purchase the water at an enormous profit to the Corporation? There is no justice or sense in that. The original standard was fixed under a total misconception of facts: the facts were erroneously stated to the then Council

But if by equity, good conscience and justice the rate-payers of the town are entitled to have 6,500 gallons for every rupee of tax they pay, I do not see why they should not have it. In fact it is only right they should have it.

An important question is raised in paragraph 7 of my hon. friend's note. He says—

"So far therefore as command over the water to the individual is involved, and loss of command to the Commissioners, this depends on the size of the ferrules; and it is the simple fact that the scale of ferrules sanctioned has been such that it has entailed entire loss of command over the water-supply, and if the Commissioners are to be responsible for the pressure of the future supply, they can only fulfil this duty if they recover their command by a wholesale reduction in the size of the ferrules."

If it is a fact that the Commissioners have lost command over the water-supply, is it not strange that there should be a general complaint all over the town as to the scanty supply of water. If that shows anything, it shows that the people have not got the command over the water which is stated in the note; they cannot get the water which they want, and therefore there is this outcry and howl of indignation on all sides. If an enquiry be made from 100 persons, probably only five persons will say that they get a fair supply; but 95 per cent. will complain that they do not get a proper supply. My hon. friend shakes his head, but I am quite willing to leave it to the rate-payers to say whether what I have stated is not perfectly correct. The effect of the proposed reduction in the size of the ferrules will be that within a given time the supply will be great deal less than it is at present. People require their supply within a given time, and care should be taken to give it to them within that time. It will be no satisfaction to tell the rate-payers that whilst you are now getting a given supply within one hour, by reducing the size of the ferrule, you will not get less than that quantity, but you will get it within three or four hours. This will be no satisfaction, because a supply within three or four hours will not serve their purpose. It is within a certain time that water is needed, and it must be supplied within that time. The whole of my hon. friend's memorandum is based on certain mathematical formulæ set out in paragraph 9, and it shows that in one minute 16¼ gallons of water can be obtained if a tap of half inch diameter is left open. This statement has been tested by a friend of mine, a European gentleman living in the European quarter of the town. I have in my hand the letter in which he gives the result of his testing and which he has given me permission to use, and the fact is that he got only 1¼ quarter gallon of water by leaving the tap open uninterruptedly for a whole minute. He says he has two taps—one 18 feet above the ground level from which he got no water at all, and the other only six feet high from which he got the quantity specified. If that is so, what is the utility of my hon. friend's formulæ. Before the formulæ can be applied, there must be a certain state of things existing to satisfy the requirements on which the formulæ is based. If the main has not been satisfactorily laid, if the inclination of the main is different from what it should be, if the connection has several bends,—all these things will have a material effect on the supply; and until all these facts can be ascertained in respect of every case, the formulæ cannot be relied upon. As I have said, the complaint of the scanty supply of water is a just one, and on the 12th of November last a motion on the subject was brought before the Town Council, and a Committee was appointed for the purpose of making a thorough enquiry into the matter. On that Committee there were persons some of whom by virtue of their professional position were highly qualified to give an opinion in a matter of this kind. On the 19th of November this Committee met, and on that day, after a good deal of discussion, the following Resolution was passed at the instance of Mr. Spring:—

"That the engineer be requested to prepare a scheme for the Committee's approval for ascertaining in a reliable manner the actual quantity of water which passes clearly into certain isolated sections of the town which he may be able to select. The object of the scheme should be to furnish as far as possible the following information:—

(1). Period during which the supply is given.
(2). Pressure maintained during that period.
(3). Area of ferrule orifices in each isolated district.
(4). Population of each district.

It was hoped that the Engineer would be able to prepare this scheme on an early date. But that early date has not yet come. The Commissioners have been anxiously waiting for this scheme, but it has not yet been placed before them. If the information which has been asked for was available in a reliable form, there would be no difficulty in at once ascertaining what are the causes of the scanty supply of water, instead of giving credit to the vague general statements made, that persons are getting more water than they should have, or that a great deal of water is wasted. I submit that when the Commissioners are themselves enquiring into this matter, and when their executive officers have not placed the information before them up to the present moment, although it was called for so far back as the 19th November last, it will be a mistake to proceed now on the basis that people are getting more water than they are entitled to, or that there is a great deal of wastage. My motion is that instead of 3,000 gallons of water, 5,000 gallons should be supplied for every rupee of tax paid, the actual cost being less than at the rate of 5,500 gallons. That is the least quantity of water to which the rate-payers are fairly entitled, and if they are fairly entitled to that quantity, why should the law reduce it? My hon friend speaks of his generosity in giving 3,000 gallons when the existing law only allows 1,500 gallons. Is there any generosity in giving 3,000 gallons when the rate-payers are entitled to 5,500 gallons? They are entitled to have more, and therefore they should have more. For the convenience of discussion I may state that my amendment should be divided into two parts.

My first amendment is to substitute in section 155, lines 3 and 4, "five thousand gallons" for the words "three thousand gallons." And my second amendment is that in lines 9 and 10 of the same section the words "through a ferrule, the size of which is to be determined by the Commissioners in meeting" be substituted for the words "through a ferrule of the size indicated in the ninth schedule." If in the course of the enquiry to which I have referred it transpires that the real cause of the scanty supply to several persons is what is put forward by the hon. member in charge of the Bill, he may be able to bring before the Commissioners a proposition for the reduction in the size of ferrules. If he can clearly show that that is the cause, there is no reason to suppose that he will not succeed in doing what he is attempting to do by the arm of the law. If the size of the ferrule is fixed by law, the result will be that in the absence of any enquiry this Council will take upon itself to say that some persons are getting more water than they are entitled to. That is my objection to fixing the size of the ferrules by legislative enactment. It does not go to the principle of the proposal, but it is whether the legislature should fix the size of the ferrule without being in possession of any reliable data. It is a question of pure justice.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—I find the speech of my hon. friend very difficult to answer, because, instead of having brought out the essential points of the questions before the Council, he has directed his speech to an impeachment of the action of the Executive of the Corporation on the water-supply question. Naturally it is somewhat embarrassing for me to answer him in reply to this impeachment without saying anything, but I do not think I have the right to inflict upon the Council a disquisition upon the several matters which have arisen between the Commissioners and their Engineer. All I ask the Council to consider is the present issues which we have to decide to-day. It remains for me to point out what the issues are—a task which my hon. friend himself should have undertaken. I am very glad that he has divided his amendment into two parts, as it consists in fact substantially of two amendments—one that the Corporation shall be bound to supply to the rate-payers for every rupee of the tax paid by them 5,000 instead of 3,000 gallons of filtered water; the other that the supply should be given through a ferrule, the size of which is to be determined by the Commissioners in meeting instead of being laid down by law. Taking the first question, he has twitted me with claiming generosity. I never claimed any generosity whatever in this matter. I said you can easily give 3,000 gallons per rupee, instead of 1,500 as heretofore, and thus show that there is no intention to diminish the supply. But would it be equally safe to guarantee 5,000 gallons? The total supply may be said to be sufficient to give 5,500 gallons per rupee, and when the extension

works are completed, they will give 7,000 or even 8,000 gallons. But the effect of the amendment is to make it obligatory on the Commissioners to supply water to each person to that extent. How can we undertake to do so unless we can prevent others from taking more than they are entitled to have? There is no doubt that some persons are getting a supply equivalent to from 9,000 to 12,000 gallons per rupee, and as long as we cannot stop that, how can we guarantee to each person a supply of 5,000 gallons? The Select Committee thought I was too generous in proposing to fix the supply at 3,000 gallons: still we do think that under the proposed restrictions as to ferrules we can undertake to give 3,000 gallons. That seems on the whole a commendable concession, but we cannot undertake to do even that if we have not some surety that people are not taking more than their fair share. Therefore I cannot accept the first amendment.

Next as to the question of ferrules. This is a point in respect of which, by the unanimous agreement of all bodies who have been consulted, something must be done. We found ourselves bound not to overlook the unanimous appeal of all parties, and therefore we have carefully looked into the matter and examined the reasons why at present a good supply cannot be given to all persons. It has, I think, been shown to demonstration that the ferrules of the town are at present on too liberal a scale. I have consulted Mr. Kimber, the Engineer to the Corporation, and that point admits of no doubt. And yet how has it been accepted by my hon. friend? He seems to consider that, although the result is produced by a law of nature, yet I am in some way responsible for it. Is it right, when we try to combine forces and to cope with a serious difficulty, to hold back and decline to admit that the only solution which the laws of mathematics and hydraulics impose on you, is not the correct one? That attitude is taken up not only by my hon. friend, but by a large number of Commissioners. I am quite prepared to admit that it is a question of very great difficulty, because mathematically the formula can only apply under normal conditions. When you come to apply it to actual conditions, such as the pipes through the tortuous lanes and gullies in the town, the taps and bends throughout Calcutta, you must bring an enormous number of disturbing elements into the calculation. If there is a bend before or after the connection, if instead of going from one street to another there is a dead end, the pressure is not so good as it is elsewhere. Mr. Kimber is now engaged in completing experiments throughout the town with a view of testing the discharges; but there has not yet been time to tabulate the results and to examine them, but there can be no doubt that a ferrule of a certain size will operate very differently in different cases. By some mistake the section in the Bill does not stand in the way it was settled by the Select Committee; we directed that there should be a power of altering the schedule by the Commissioners in meeting with the sanction of the Local Government. We desired to introduce this power either in the section or in the schedule, but it has been left out of both. Seeing the uncertainty of the precise effect of a hard-and-fast scale of ferrules, I do think there must be a power of modifying the schedule in that way.

Then comes the further amendment of my hon. friend, that instead of inserting a scale of ferrules in the Act, it should be left to be determined by the Commissioners in meeting. I do not look on this proposal with any great disfavour. It will put a very hard task on the officers of the Corporation to persuade the Commissioners to adopt a reduced scale, for it is plain how very unwilling the Commissioners will be to face the question in the only way it should be faced, but it is a power which ought perhaps to rest with the Commissioners; and although it will be difficult to convince them of what is the right thing to do, I believe they will in the end be convinced. Therefore as Chairman of the Corporation I raise no opposition to the second portion of my hon. friend's amendment. It is a question for the Council to settle. It is not I, as representing the Corporation, who say that you must prescribe a schedule in the Act. Hard as the task may be, I am prepared to let the Commissioners settle it if the Council think fit, but it is a further question to consider how far we will be doing our duty to the public. This the Council must determine. If they are willing to leave the decision with the Commissioners, I do not object.

I must add one word as regards the allegation that 95 per cent. of the people complain of the scanty supply of water. This I deny *in toto*; 80 per cent. might be nearer the mark. There is not the slightest doubt of what the supply is; the capacity of the pumps is known. Every stroke that is pumped up is registered, and there is no doubt that the quantity of water shown by the indicator is actually delivered. But it is delivered to 13,000 or 14,000 houses in the town. Of these about 8,000 or 9,000 have a good supply, 2,000 or 3,000 have an indifferent supply, and 2,000 or 3,000 have a very bad supply; and these 2,000 or 3,000 persons have a very bad supply, because others take the water off before it reaches them. We had a very good practical test the other day. Out of 13 Commissioners who were present at a meeting of the Town Council only two of them, Mr. Simmons and Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar, complained that they had a bad supply; and I believe every member of this Council, except the Doctor, would say that they have a fair supply. Mr. Simmons' house is situated in one of the worst quarters of the town. (St. James' Square) in relation to the water-supply, and for some reason the pipes there are so arranged and are of such a size as to act very badly indeed: and see how wide of the mark his comments are as read out by the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter. Mr. Simmons is one of the most intelligent, hard-working and devoted members of the Corporation. The formula shows that he ought to get 16¼ gallons of water per minute, but it is a question of pressure, and he says (as has been stated by my hon. friend) he gets only 1¼ gallons per minute. All that that proves is that the pressure in his house is extremely bad. He has a tap 6 feet in height, therefore 6 feet of pressure goes in raising the water to the tap, and if the pressure there is only 7 feet, he can only get one foot of pressure. Applying the mathematical formula to this case, and assuming that the average quantity supplied is 16¼ gallons per minute on the 30 feet pressure, it follows that if there are no disturbing elements in the case, the supply to Mr. Simmons should be very small indeed. Making due allowance for the existence of some or all of the disturbing elements to which I have referred, the formula must be taken to be only approximately correct. My hon. friend knows that everybody wants the water quickly and at the same hour; is it not therefore perfectly plain that everybody cannot have what he wants, as the supply has been so arranged as to give the full supply not in one hour, but in three or four? It has often been suggested that we should give the supply at different parts of the town at different times, but that will give great cause of complaint, and will, moreover, involve a fundamental alteration of the scheme of the water-supply works. I have only to repeat that as regards the size of the ferrules I have no objection to leave it in the hands of the Corporation.

The Hon. Mr. Macaulay said:—As regards the first amendment of my hon. friend Babu Kali Nath Mitter, I think the arguments of the hon. member in charge of the Bill cannot be disputed, and that the Council should resist the amendment. As regards the willingness of Sir Henry Harrison to accept the second amendment, I would ask the Council to consider what the effect of that amendment will be. It is perfectly clear that the existing scale of ferrules has resulted in a considerable waste of water by certain people to the disadvantage of other people. Some people get a great deal more water than they pay for, because they are able to intercept it, while others are unable to get even as much as they pay for. This is the result of the adoption of the present scale of ferrules. Still I do not think it can be fairly said the Commissioners will be willing to exercise the very invidious task of reducing the dimensions of ferrules, and therefore I think the Council should wait until they are in a position to fix the schedule of ferrules in such a way as to give a standard to which the Commissioners can apply themselves. I understood in Select Committee that we had practically decided that. We found that the existing ferrules were on too liberal a scale, that the Engineer to the Corporation was engaged in practically testing the correctness of the mathematical formula, and that his enquiries have not yet been completed. There remain only the questions whether we should now fix a scale of ferrules in the schedule, or leave it to the Commissioners to do so, or wait until we are in possession of the results of Mr. Kimber's investigations. I ask the Council to allow the consideration of this question to stand over during the time we

are in Session, so that we may be in possession of fuller information before we come to prescribe any scale in the schedule.

The HON. MR. ALLEN said:—I would ask the hon. member in charge of the Bill to say whether it was not his suggestion that the question of the size of ferrules should be taken out of the hands of the Commissioners and embodied in the Bill by the Select Committee, and whether it was not in consequence of his having informed the Select Committee that he felt it perfectly hopeless to induce the Commissioners (who wanted a larger quantity of water than that to which they were entitled) to reduce the size of the ferrules, and that he wished a scale of ferrules to be inserted in the Act. At present the scale of ferrules is such that those who have been first in the field are able to take much more water than that to which they are entitled, to the disadvantage of those who apply for water connections later on. It has been a regular scramble; first come first served. To avoid that the hon. member induced the Select Committee (another view was adopted by a large majority) that the responsibility of fixing the size of the ferrules should be taken out of the hands of the Municipal Commissioners; that the Act itself should lay down the scale of ferrules according to the mathematical formulæ, so calculated that during the hours the pressure is kept up every man in Calcutta would be capable of receiving an amount of water which the rate he paid entitled him to receive. There was no intention to deprive a single person of a gallon of water which his rate entitled him: but it was determined that he should take his allowance so as not to deprive others. We were at the same time prepared to allow that in exceptional cases, where from houses being situated at a distance from the centre of the water-supply or from other exceptional circumstances, the proper supply could not be given from the standard ferrule, the Commissioners should have the power of altering and enlarging the ferrule to suit the peculiarities of the locality, and I understood that a clause to this effect would be appended to the schedule. I would strongly urge that this is the better course to adopt, and that the section now under consideration should stand as it is; but when we come to consider the schedule, it may, if necessary, be altered, and a clause may be inserted, entitling the Commissioners, with the approval of the Lieutenant-Governor, in exceptional cases and for special reasons, to enlarge the ferrule.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE said:—After the admission made by the hon. member in charge of the Bill that the formula upon which the schedule of ferrules depends is not strictly correct, and that experiments are being made to test its accuracy, I think it will be very unsafe to pass this section of the Bill as it stands; for the result of the testing may show that the standard we have adopted as the basis of the schedule, viz., a supply of 16¾ gallons per minute through a ferrule half inch in diameter, is nothing near the truth, and that the real quantity is about the eighth part of that. In that case there will be no justification for saying that what we call the normal standard is the normal standard. Either the consideration of this question should stand over, or if the Council prefer to dispose of it now, we must accept the amendment of the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I do not see any substantial difference between the action which I now propose to take and what I did in Select Committee. If the Council, looking to the representations made by all classes of the community, wish to settle this question now, they must settle it by themselves prescribing a standard. What I have said to-day is that, so far as the Executive will have difficulty in getting the consent of the Commissioners to a proper scale of ferrules, I am willing to undertake the task of getting it passed. I think that in the long run when the matter is threshed out, the Commissioners will adopt a reasonable scale of ferrules; but it will be much more difficult to convince them than it has been to convince the Select Committee. As regards the proposal to postpone the consideration of this question, I have only to say that what I know now the Council will know a month hence. A formula which requires normal conditions cannot apply strictly to concrete cases. There is scarcely a single house in the town to which the formula will absolutely apply. In some cases the supply will be more abundant, and in other instances less than the standard quantity. I am afraid the Council will not find themselves in

a better position by postponing this question, but if they wish to do so I have no objection. I think there can be no objection to a standard schedule so long as it is perfectly clear that there is power to alter it; and so far as the alteration applies to individual cases that power must be left in the hands of the Commissioners. Provision is made for such cases in section 158, clause 2, which provides that if the house is so situated that the size of the ferrule prescribed is insufficient to pass the daily supply of water which the occupier of such house is entitled to receive, the Commissioners shall permit the use of a ferrule of such size as shall be sufficient to pass such supply. That is the section which applies to particular cases, but we also agreed to give a power to revise the schedule as a whole. That might be left to the Commissioners in meeting with the approval of the Local Government.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—I do not propose to take up much time in replying, after the hon. member in charge of the Bill has expressed his willingness to accept my second amendment: at any rate he has no objection to offer to it, and that being so, I hope the Council will adopt that amendment, which I think is right in principle. The question of the reduction of the ferrule has never been raised before the Commissioners in any shape whatever; but after the enquiry which is now being made it may be necessary to do so. As the whole matter of the water-supply of the town is in the hands of the Commissioners, it is only right that the question of the size of ferrules should also be left to them. If my amendment is not accepted, I shall be willing to adopt the suggestion of my hon. friend Mr. Macaulay, and allow the consideration of the question to stand over.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—It seems to me that the proposals before the Council are getting a little mixed. As it stands we have a scale of ferrules in the schedule, and we have a proposal that a scale should be laid down with power to the Commissioners to modify the scale in individual cases. On the top of that the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter proposes that the arrangement of the scale of ferrules should be left entirely to the Commissioners, and that the Legislature should take no part in it. Again, until the enquiry of which we have heard is completed, we have been told by the Hon. Mr. Macaulay that it will be better to hang up the question altogether. But the hon. member in charge of the Bill tells us that the enquiry will not be completed for another month, and that when it is completed we shall know little more about it than we do now; so a further proposal is made for us nominally to adopt the scale of ferrules now in the schedule, but at the same time we are to say that the Commissioners need not adopt it unless they like. It seems to me that if we are to leave to the Commissioners the power to alter the schedule at their pleasure, it is better to leave it to them at once. If you cannot trust your scale, and if the enquiry is not likely to throw any real light on the way in which the working of the formula differs from the practical discharge through the ferrules, it seems to me that as you cannot lay down a scale which you can trust to work easily, it will be better not to take the responsibility of laying down any scale at all. The first question is whether we shall adopt the section in the Bill as it stands, leaving, as the hon. member in charge of the Bill suggests, the schedule which contains the scale an open question; in which case it can be considered at another sitting of the Council, or any other scale can be inserted in the Bill; and we can at the same time discuss the provision which Sir Henry Harrison proposes that it should be in the power of the Commissioners in meeting, with the sanction of the Local Government, to alter or vary the schedule from time to time. These two motions will be proposed when we come to the schedule. If that is lost, then we come to the proposal of the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter that the scale of ferrules be determined by the Commissioners in meeting.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER's motion that in section 155, the words "five thousand gallons" be substituted for the words "three thousand gallons" was put to the vote and negatived.

The consideration of the HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER's second amendment, that the words "through a ferrule, the size of which is to be determined by the Commissioners in meeting" be substituted for the words "through a

ferrule of the size indicated in the ninth Schedule," was postponed till the Ninth Schedule of the Bill comes up for consideration.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that in lines 6 and 7 of section 186 the words "every person present at the death, or in case of their default" be omitted.

He said:—The object of this section is to have correct and complete registers of deaths, and that object, I submit, will be fully secured by imposing an obligation to register deaths on the relatives and persons in attendance during the last illness of any persons dying in Calcutta, and also in case of their default, on the occupiers of the houses in which the death takes place. It is not only unnecessary, but unfair and unjust, to impose the duty on every person present at the time of the death. Many of the persons may be mere casual spectators; and the injustice of this provision will appear all the more clearly when it is borne in mind that a breach of this duty is made punishable under section 188.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—This is an obligation which has been imposed by law for some years past, but how far it has been of use I cannot say: people are not present at deaths unless they have some interest in the person dying.

[HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT pointed out that the wording of the existing Act is "some one of the persons present."]

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE saw no objection to the wording of the existing Act.

The amendment was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that in section 187, for the words "seven days from the date of the death" the words "seven days of his becoming cognizant of the death" be substituted.

He said:—A medical gentleman represented to me that in many cases a doctor attends, but not having given satisfaction, he has not attended further. The object is not to make him liable under this section unless he knows of the death.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that in line 3 of section 191, after the word "certificate" the words "or entry in a register" be inserted.

He said:—This is a verbal amendment. The object is to make the language of the section harmonise with section 190, which provides that in certain cases an entry in the register is substantially the same as a certificate.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, for section 204, the following be substituted:—

> "The Commissioners in meeting may acquire any land required for the purpose of opening, widening, extending or otherwise improving any public street, or of making any new public street, and the buildings, if any, standing upon such land."

He said:—The object of this amendment is to leave out of section 204 those clauses which authorize the Commissioners to acquire in addition to any land which may be actually required for the opening or widening of any street, additional land extending to 100 feet on both or either side of the street. That provision, I submit, is wholly objectionable. Private property ought to be held to be sacred, and the compulsory acquisition of it ought never to be allowed unless it is distinctly required for a public purpose. Acquiring land for the purpose of selling it at a profit may be advantageous to the Municipality, but I can hardly persuade myself to say that it is a public purpose which would warrant compulsory acquisition. If the doctrine were true that a public body like the Corporation can increase their funds by acquiring lands in that way, the doctrine will be most dangerous to private property, and I do not think the hon. member in charge of the Bill will rest his case on that ground. I know it may be said that there is further justification. Whenever a new street is opened or an existing street is improved or widened, it increases the value of the adjacent land on both sides up to a certain distance; and if the former owners are allowed to retain the land, they will, it is said, benefit at another's expense. But if we examine

the point a little more narrowly, it will appear that this argument is more specious than sound; for it is not correct to say that the owners of the adjacent lands derive advantage without paying for it. They do pay by contributing as rate-payers to the funds of the Municipality, and that is the purse out of which the acquisition is made. Nor can it be said that it will be wholly wrong for them to derive an incidental advantage. A street is to be opened or widened for a public purpose. It is a public purpose not merely because a street will be required for public traffic, but because the public will be benefited in other ways, such as by improved ventilation and the like. Therefore the advantage which the owners of adjacent lands derive by the value of their property being raised is one of the necessary incidental advantages to which the public or a portion of the public have a right. And I see no reason why the Municipality should be allowed to acquire these additional lands for the purpose of selling it at a profit.

Again it might be said that for the ornamentation of the town it is desirable that the buildings on either side of large streets should be of a certain form or size. This object would be secured if the Municipality in the first instance acquires land adjacent to a street and sells it under certain conditions. If that is the object, let us provide that the buildings by the side of public roads should, whenever they are taken down, be rebuilt in a certain way. That will be a far more satisfactory way of securing the object in view than this indirect mode.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that clauses (*b*) and (*c*) of section 204 be omitted, and that the last paragraph of the same section be also omitted.

He said:—This motion is precisely the same in effect as the last. Clause (*b*) of the section applies to the acquisition of additional lands, and clause (*c*) gives authority to sell or otherwise dispose of any land or building acquired under clause (*b*) And then there is a further clause that any reconveyance of land or of a building under clause (*c*) may comprise such conditions as the Commissioners think fit as to the removal of the existing building, the description of new building to be erected, and such matters. I do not know whether, having regard to the Transfer of Property Act, such conditions can be imposed. That Act regulates the purchase of property in Calcutta, and I am not aware that such conditions can be imposed. Besides that, my opposition to these clauses also rests on the ground that it is altogether inequitable. Section 190 of the existing law provides that the Commissioners, making due compensation to the owners and occupiers of any houses or land which may be acquired for any such purposes, may lay out and make new streets, and may widen, open, enlarge or improve any street; and for the purposes of this section the Commissioners in meeting may purchase any land necessary for houses and buildings to form any public street or for the improvement of any public street. So far as I have been able to understand the present Act, there are three modes by which the Commissioners may take over lands. First, they may do it themselves, under certain circumstances, the Court of Small Causes settling the amount of compensation to be paid; secondly, they may acquire it under the Land Acquisition Act; and thirdly, they may obtain it by purchase or by mutual agreement. I can see no objection to the Commissioners purchasing additional land whenever there is any necessity to do so; that means whenever the owner is willing to part with it. But the section in this Bill alters that, and makes it lawful for the Commissioners to acquire in addition land and buildings outside of the regular line of a street, provided that, without the special sanction of the Local Government, not more than 100 feet shall be acquired on either side of the regular line of the street. I wholly fail to understand this latter clause. Under the law in every instance the sanction of the Local Government is to be obtained, and without the sanction of the Government not a single inch of land can be acquired. The idea, though not stated in the section, is that by acquiring a great deal more land than is required when a locality is to be improved, the excess land when resold will fetch a considerably larger price than was paid by the Commissioners, and thus the cost of the improvement will be very much reduced, and in some cases it will probably be *nil*. That, I submit, is not the policy of the law. The policy of the law is that not only the present generation, but future generations should pay for works of a permanent character. If you drive away a large number of persons from

their houses in expectation of re-selling the land at a profit, you virtually make property belonging to a certain portion of the community pay for the whole of the improvement. That to my mind is inequitable. The argument which has been put forward with success—and I have no doubt will be put forward now with a great deal of force—is that by spending a large sum of money the Commissioners improve a certain locality, and why should they do that for the benefit of a limited number of persons; that if this limited number of persons get the largest benefit, they should pay for an adequate share of the improvement—an adequate share by the deprivation of their property. If a loan is raised for the improvement, these persons will have to bear their share of the interest and of the sinking fund for the repayment of the loan; and moreover when the locality is improved, the assessment on the property of these persons will be increased. In the first instance they contribute in the same way as the rest of the public for the payment of interest and for the sinking fund; and secondly, because they enjoy the benefit most their property is made to pay a larger assessment. It strikes me also in another manner. Whenever a particular property is improved, it is improved no doubt in the first instance for the benefit of all, and secondarily for the benefit of the persons who reside in the locality. The improvement of sanitation benefits the town, and these persons expect to share in the improvement. But the secondary object of the improvement is defeated if the property is taken away from these persons, and they are driven out of Calcutta. If the Legislature provides that additional lands may be acquired for improving a locality, and that the excess lands should be resold to the parties at the cost price, the objection would be minimised. Of course, no profit would not then be made. But I rest my objection on the higher ground that a violation of the rights of private property should not be tolerated unless it is for the public benefit, and that is the ground on which the Land Acquisition Act is based. The Government has to declare that a particular tract of land is required for a public purpose, and then the acquisition can be made. Traffic in land is in effect declared by this section to be a public purpose, which to my mind is not a public purpose contemplated under the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act. Under these circumstances I move that those clauses of the section be omitted.

The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar said:—I support the motion of the Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee. I do not see any good reason for authorising the Municipal Corporation to acquire more land than what is strictly required for municipal purposes. The only reason which is given for the authority claimed is that the adjacent lands on both sides of the street will command a higher value than they commanded before the street was opened or improved. But I do not think that is an equitable ground for depriving persons of their property. The property on either side of a line of railway is improved in value by its construction, but I do not think a Railway Company is authorised to acquire excess lands on both sides of a railway because their value will be increased by the opening out of the railway.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—I do not propose to argue this question at any length. The section in this Bill is not believed to make any change in the law: legal opinion has declared that clearly; but as some doubts had been expressed, it was thought as well to introduce the wording of the Bombay Act which states the matter clearly. To my mind the first principles of equity show as clearly as possible that what is proposed is right. The section provides that when you are constructing a street, you may take up sufficient land to cover the buildings on either side of the street: to make it possible for proper houses to be built, you must give proper plots of lands. Otherwise you will find here a deep block, there strips of a few feet wide only enough to build godowns. If you wish to ensure success, you must acquire sufficient land on either side; and having got the land, is there anything unjust in selling it for a higher price entirely caused by your improvement? Owners are already paid 15 per cent. in addition to the market value as compensation for the enforced acquirement. Suppose the construction of a street to cost twenty lakhs, and the property on both sides to be enhanced five times in value; our friends contend that the public should get none of the enhanced value, and that the fortunate owners on both sides of the street should get the whole of the benefit? To my mind there is absolutely no equity in such a proceeding.

Those who have created the enhanced value of the side lands are the persons to whom the increased value ought to go. The law sufficiently guards the interests and rights of the owners themselves by giving them 15 per cent. as compensation in addition to the market value of their property. Therefore I hope the Council will reject these amendments.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE's motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 4.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mittar.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER's motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR moved that after clause (c) the following words be added :—"Provided that the profits accruing therefrom be devoted to the purpose for which the land is acquired."

He said :—The object of the amendment is to prevent the profits derived from the construction or improvement of a street being applied to any other purpose. The amendment is so clear and just that I do not see what possible objection can be taken to it.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said :—I do not see any reason for this amendment. The Municipality does not derive any profit in such cases. If, for instance, the construction of a road cost 20 lakhs, and 15 lakhs are recovered from the sale of surplus land, the 15 lakhs are set off against the 20 lakhs.

The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR said in reply :—The proviso will serve as a check upon the Corporation acquiring more land than is necessary for a specific purpose, and it will prevent any surplus being applied to any other municipal purpose.

The motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, in line 7 of section 205, after the words "compensation to" the words "and providing sufficient means of ingress and egress for" be inserted.

He said :—The section as it stands only provides for the grant of compensation, by which I understand pecuniary compensation for the inconvenience caused by the closing of the road. The section says nothing about provision being made for means of ingress and egress of which in all probability the person will be deprived by the closing of the road. It may be said that, strictly speaking, under the ordinary law he would be entitled to means of ingress and egress, which is technically termed a way of necessity; but seeing that the section makes mention of the word "compensation," there should be provision for a way of necessity. The amendment does not provide any additional obligation.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said :—The words "making compensation" are extensive. Compensation is to be given for every advantage which a person had, and the means of ingress and egress are usually matters which are included. It is perfectly certain that such provision will be made, otherwise the Corporation will have to pay enormous compensation, because the person's house would be hermetically sealed. If the amendment is adopted, what will be included within the words? Will it mean that in every case there must be a carriage way? It will be for the Court to decide in each case. Even by the common law a person cannot be shut up in his house.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that, for section 205, the following be substituted :—

"When any public street is permanently closed under section two hundred and three, the Commissioners may, with the consent of the owner or owners of the property situated on either side of such street, dispose of the site of so much of the roadway and footpath as is not

longer required, making due compensation to such owner or owners. And if any dispute shall arise touching the amount or apportionment of such compensation, it shall be settled in the manner hereinafter provided for the settlement of disputes respecting damages and expenses:

Provided that in determining such compensation, the Court shall make allowance for any benefit conferred on the same premises or any adjacent premises belonging to the same owner by the construction or improvement of any other public street, at or about the same time that the public street, on account of which the compensation is paid, is closed."

He said:—It is possible to conceive of many cases where a money payment will not compensate an individual for the closing of a road. Suppose a part of a street is closed or diverted, and there are twenty houses on one side of it. The road may now be 20, 30, or 50 yards off, and the land between the new street and the house is bought by a stranger. The injury done to the owners of the property which was situated on the side of the old road will be so great that it will be impossible to compensate them by a mere money payment. Each owner should be allowed to take up the land in front of his house at a reasonable value and to advance his premises to the new street. There would then be no objection; but if strangers are allowed to come in, great injury will be done. The section should be so worded as to render it impossible for the Commissioners to commit such injury. By a resolution of the Commissioners in meeting, the individual is always offered the land in front of his house at a fair valuation. Before that resolution was passed, the land was always sold by public auction, and I know of an instance where such land of the value of Rs. 500 a cottah was with some ulterior object bought by a man's next-door neighbour for Rs. 2,400 a cottah. Since then the resolution to which I have referred was passed, and no difficulty has occurred. Practically the object of my motion is to retain the present state of things.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—I cannot admit that the Commissioners are not to be allowed to close a street except with the consent of the owners of property on either side of it. The words in the Bombay Bill are, "with the sanction of the Council the Commissioners may permanently close all or any part of a public street," and in Select Committee they added:—"Provided that the sanction of the Council shall not be given unless at least one month before the meeting notice has been given informing the residents of the said proposal in order that objections may be received." I have no objection to a provision of that kind. But under the amendment now proposed, the Commissioners will be unable to dispose of the site without the consent of the owners of the property situated on either side of the street. The section in the Bombay Bill provides that "the site may be disposed of and sold as land belonging to the Corporation." If you construct a new street, you must sometimes close another street or part of a street. The right of selling the site must be given, compensation being paid for the injury done to owners of property, to such amount as may be determined by any independent tribunal.

The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee said in reply:—The remarks of the hon. member in charge of the Bill go fully to show the necessity of inserting the words in my amendment. First he said that due compensation may be taken to include provision for ingress and egress. He may be of that opinion, but others may think differently. The word "compensation" means pecuniary compensation. At the same time he admitted that it is a common law right that a way of necessity must be given, and there can therefore be no objection to provide for it expressly by mentioning it in the law itself. The only word in my amendment which is considered objectionable is "sufficient," but whether that word be inserted or not, the amount of compensation must be determined by a court of law. That, however, is no reason why no provision should be made in the Bill.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter said in reply:—The hon. member in charge of the Bill is under some misapprehension as to the effect of my amendment, as he thinks it will interfere with the power of the Commissioners to close streets. Suppose the Commissioners close up a street, and the land between the houses in front of such street and the new street is sold to strangers; the owners of such houses will not have the means of ingress and egress. There is no provision in the existing law authorising the Commissioners to sell a street.

[Sir Henry Harrison—The Commissioners may, under section 137, sell any land vested in them which is not required for the purposes of the Act.] That will not apply in these cases. I submit that section 205 of this Bill is a new provision, and it has actually been marked in the Bill as a new section; and before such a power is conferred there must be a safeguard as to the disposal of the land, having reference to the rights of the persons interested.

The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR said:—I cannot understand under what circumstances a street can be closed without interfering with the sanitation of the town.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON replied:—The closing of a street is always undertaken in connection with some other improvement.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—While I can perfectly see the objection to the motion of the Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter, I cannot understand what the objection to the amendment of the Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee really is. I cannot see why this section, giving legal authority to dispose of the site of a closed-up street, should conflict with the resolution of the Commissioners under which the sale of land in front of private property is now conducted. The Commissioners now dispose of such land to the owners on either side of it, but if they cannot come to terms with them, they must give it to an outsider. But I do think a provision for ingress and egress very reasonable.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE'S motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 5.	*Noes 7.*
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
The Hon Sir Alfred Croft.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
His Honour the President.	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER'S motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that in line 3 of the proviso of section 207, the word "direct" be omitted; and that the last clause of the same section be omitted.

He said:—Under the Land Acquisition Act damages are already allowed, and I cannot see why compensation should be limited by this Bill to "direct" damages. The Land Acquisition Act distinctly states what damages should be allowed. Indirect damages are as a matter of law never allowed.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—The question raised by this amendment is not of very great importance, but I will explain why the provision now objected to was put in. The law as it stands provides that whenever a house which projects beyond the regular line of a public street has been taken down in order to be rebuilt, the Commissioners may require the same to be set back to or towards the line of the street, or the line of the adjoining houses, provided that the Commissioners shall make full compensation to the owner for any damage he may thereby sustain. Certainly that section reads as if it was intended to confer a power of some value on the Commissioners; for instance, they might take advantage of the opportunity to widen the street more advantageously than they could otherwise do; but if this amendment is adopted of what value is it? The question is, what is the compensation to be given? Is it compensation under the Land Acquisition Act? An instance in illustration of this occurred in Old Court House Lane in which a house was taken down for the purpose of being rebuilt, and it was pointed out that advantage might be taken of the opportunity to make the lane (an important thoroughfare) of uniform width. We gave notice to the owner of our intention to take up a small portion of the land at the orifice to the lane for the purpose stated, but he insisted on the Commissioners taking up the whole house, and demanded Rs. 80,000 as compensation. We took advice, and we were advised not to acquire the land unless we were prepared to face the probability

of having to pay for the whole of the plot; and thus an important improvement was abandoned. Suppose in such a case there are two cottahs of land, and the Commissioners wish to take up one cottah, it is fair and reasonable that the owner should be compensated for any injury done in diminishing the area of the land as building ground, but no indirect damages should be included.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE said:—I support this amendment. The law will never give a decree for indirect damages, and therefore the common law being sufficient, we should not, for the benefit of the Corporation, insert a provision that is unnecessary. Just as in the other case the hon. member pointed out that for the protection of private owners it is unnecessary to include in the law what the common law already provides for: so in this case. And there is a further reason for supporting this amendment. In the definition given of "direct" damage reduction in size is stated, but no reference is made to alteration in shape which may equally cause a depreciation in value. We know that people require rectangular pieces of land for building purposes, and therefore change in the shape of the land is a material element.

The HON. MR. MACAULAY could not see any necessity for the introduction of any reference to altering the shape of the piece of land. You can only alter the shape of a piece of land in such a case by increasing its size or by reducing its size. Here there is no question of increase in size. Consequently the words referring to reduction of size must include alteration in shape.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—A threat held out in a particular case should not justify an innovation in the law, on the supposition that the claim made in that case was a just one, and would be allowed by the courts. I do not think we can assume anything of the kind. Under the present law the owner will get what he is entitled to by the Land Acquisition Act, and I do not see why any difficulty should be thrown in the way by introducing the word "direct," and then proceeding to define the word.

The Motions being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 4.	*Noes* 8.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
His Honour the President.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.

So the Motions were negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that, after section 212, the following new section be inserted:—

"212A. It shall not be lawful for an owner or occupier of a house, which does not front, adjoin, or abut upon a public road, street or lane, to lay out a new street, lane or pathway leading to such public road, street or lane, without obtaining the written sanction of the Commissioners, who may, before granting such sanction, call upon such person to submit a plan showing the intended level and width of such street, lane or pathway, and the arrangements made for draining it. If the Commissioners approve of the plan, they shall, within thirty days from the date of the receipt of such plan, accord such sanction; but if they do not approve of the plan, they shall refuse such sanction."

He said:—To my mind the provisions of section 213, if properly worked, will be quite sufficient for all purposes, but that section has hitherto not been worked in that way, and therefore it is necessary that a provision of this sort should be introduced. Persons purchase land in the interior, not on the side of any street; they build houses, and leave small paths as streets or passages; other houses are built without leaving adequate paths for streets; the place becomes insanitary, and they ask the Commissioners to improve the locality. Precisely such a case happened in Sukea's Bagan, and it had to be improved at the expense of Rs. 30,000. It was sparsely inhabited at first, but afterwards became crowded with habitations. But if under the law a person having a house would be precluded from opening a street leading to

a public street without permission, then the Commissioners would have full control as to the width of the street and the drainage. This amendment would render many of the sections providing building regulations unnecessary; because if the Commissioners have power in the first instance as to the opening out of streets, a great deal of the difficulty which at present arises will be overcome. Another case of the same sort recently came up in Rajah Bagan; small houses were built in promiscuous places without obtaining permission as to the opening out of lanes and pathways; the place got into an insanitary condition, and the residents applied for improvement. The late Officiating Chairman suggested the opening out of two large streets, and the result is that the Commissioners will have to spend about a lakh of rupees to improve the locality. All this will be prevented if the amendment which I now propose is adopted.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—The hon. member has admitted that all he wishes to do is to make more clear what section 213 is intended to do. I have no objection to the wording of the proposed section, but I do not see any necessity for it. The inconvenience which is felt is not as to the laying down of a new street, but to the building of houses here and there without reference to any proper street, but with only small tortuous paths here and there. The object which this section is intended to meet will be better obtained under the building sections which come later on.

The motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that, in line 1 of section 213, for the words "Every person who" the words "Whenever a person, being desirous of selling any land belonging to him in small parcels, or otherwise" be substituted.

He said:—The object of this amendment is to widen the scope of the section in order to prevent the very cases which generally happen, viz., that of persons who sell lands in small parcels, leaving only narrow pathways.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—The only objection I have to this amendment is as to its wording which is not clear.

The HON. MR. REYNOLDS asked what test the hon. member proposed, to show that a person is desirous of selling land in small parcels? The words proposed appear to be unnecessary.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—To my mind section 213 is sufficient; but notwithstanding that section the Executive has not been able to control the cases which have happened; therefore I am desirous of seeing whether or not the section can be so improved as to deal with such cases. I wish to reach the person who in the first instance sells land in small parcels, instead of those who have purchased small plots of land, and subsequently build upon them.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—The object my hon. friend wishes to attain can best be secured by prohibiting the building of any house without the site being first approved. He wishes that owners should be prohibited from selling land in small parcels without warning the purchasers that they cannot build upon the land until a street is first laid out. I ask, is it the object of the owner of land to lay out roads? If asked, he will say he does not wish to lay out a new street.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—In every case certain portions of the land are left for streets. If those streets are constructed with the approval of the Commissioners there will be no difficulty. If the site is objectionable the sale will be objected to at the beginning, instead of punishing the persons who have bought the land in small parcels, by refusing them permission to build on it.

[HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT thought the wording of section 213 covered all the ground of the amendment and more.]

The Motion was then, by leave, withdrawn.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, in the last paragraph of section 224, for the words "shall not apply to any portion of the area by this Act added to the Town of Calcutta" the words "shall not apply to the area by this Act added to Calcutta, or to any area hereafter included in it under section two hundred and fifty-seven" be substituted.

The HON. MR. ALLEN said:—I think this section prohibiting the roofs and external walls of huts being made of inflammable materials is already in force in a considerable part of the area which is to be added to Calcutta.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—In such portions of the added area where this section is already in force, its provisions will at once be applied by the Commissioners in meeting, and it will be extended thereafter as they think fit.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The consideration of the further clauses of the Bill was postponed till the next sitting of the Council.

The Council was adjourned to Saturday, the 21st April, 1888.

CALCUTTA,
The 3rd May, 1888.

WILLIAM GRAHAM,
for Asstt. Secretary to the Govt. of Bengal,
Legislative Department.

Abstract of the Proceedings of the Council of the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, assembled for the purpose of making Laws and Regulations under the provisions of the Act of Parliament 24 and 25 Vic., Cap. 67.

THE Council met at the Council Chamber on Saturday, the 21st April, 1888, at 11 A.M.

Present:

The HON. SIR STEUART COLVIN BAYLEY, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, *presiding*.
The HON. G. C. PAUL, C.I.E., Advocate-General.
The HON. H. J. REYNOLDS, C.S.I.
The HON. C. P. L. MACAULAY, C.I.E.
The HON. T. T. ALLEN.
The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON, KT.
The HON. SIR ALFRED CROFT, K.C.I.E.
The HON. MOULVIE ABDUL JUBBAR.
The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER.
The HON. DR. MAHENDRA LAL SIRCAR, C.I.E.
The HON. C. H. MOORE.
The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE.
The HON. H. PRATT.

CALCUTTA AND SUBURBAN MUNICIPALITIES AMALGAMATION BILL.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that the clauses of the Bill to consolidate and amend the Law relating to the municipal affairs of the Town and Suburbs of Calcutta, as further amended, be further considered for settlement in the form recommended by the Select Committee.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that section 235 of the Bill be omitted.

He said:—This section gives power to the Commissioners to approve of, or to reject, any building site upon which any person wishes to build. The section provides that the person shall submit a plan showing the position of the house with reference to—(*a*) some existing public street, or (*b*) some projected public street, or (*c*) some existing private street, or (*d*) some proposed private street; and the plan has also to show the position and approximate height of all other houses within 40 feet of the proposed site. These provisions are not in the existing law; and when the Bill was before the Council on the last occasion, these innovations had not been introduced. Then the existing law was modified to some extent, and it was considered sufficient to leave it in that position; but since then the hon. member in charge of the Bill has thought fit to introduce this section, and it was adopted by a large majority of the Select Committee. The members of the British Indian Association have taken exception to this section. A memorial has also been submitted to your Honour on behalf of a public meeting recently held, and in Select Committee I also took exception to it. My objection to the section is that the power given to the Commissioners is a very extensive one, and unless it is exercised with very great discretion, it is likely to be abused and a good deal of injury done to owners who want to build on their lands. Take, for instance, a case of this kind. A man has, say, 3 bighas of land which he wishes to sell in building lots; a man of ordinary means purchases 3 cottahs out of it, and then applies to the Corporation for permission to build. Under this section the Commissioners will be entitled to require him to show them where the proposed street is to be. This man having purchased only 3 cottahs out of the 3 bighas of land is not in a position to say where the proposed street will be; all he can say is that he is willing to leave some portion of his land which may be necessary for a street to be [illegible]

after constructed. The rest of the land may not be sold for a year to come, and this man will in the meantime be kept from building on his land. This is perhaps an extreme case, but the power being conferred in the Commissioners, it may for aught we know to the contrary be exercised in this way. The proper safeguard is to require the owner of any land, before he sells it in building lots, to lay out proper streets with the sanction of the Commissioners. That is the real remedy. Such a provision will not only be just, but it will have the desired effect. But in the case I put of the purchaser of 3 cottahs of land out of 3 bighas, the land will be valueless to him, and yet he will have to pay rates and taxes in respect of it Subject to correction by the learned Advocate-General and the Legal Remembrancer, I submit that an owner of land has an inherent right to make a legitimate use of his land as long as he does not cause any injury to his neighbours, and one of the legitimate uses to which he can put his land is certainly the building upon it of a suitable house for himself. I am quite willing, and I have never objected to power being vested in the Commissioners, to regulate the construction of buildings, but I object to any further power being given. The Select Committee in justifying the introduction of this section say in their report that a good deal of mischief has arisen from the absence of the power proposed to be conferred by this section, and that this power exists in the model bye-laws and in the Bombay Act. If the Commissioners consider that those model bye-laws should be followed, having regard to the manners and customs of this country, by all means let them make such bye-laws; but the circumstances in England and in this country are so different that the fact of the power existing under the model bye-laws in England is no justification for its introduction here. I have given notice of motion for the introduction of the following section in lieu of section 236 of the Bill, regarding the information to be given by a person before beginning to build a house:—

"Before beginning to build any new house, or to rebuild or materially alter the structure of any house, the person intending so to do shall give to the Commissioners notice thereof in writing, and shall accompany such notice with a plan of the site and the proposed buildings drawn to the scale of not less than one inch to every eight feet, showing the following particulars:—

(a) the position, form and dimensions of the several parts of such building, and of every water-closet, privy, urinal, cesspool, well and other appurtenances;

(b) the width and level of the street, if any, in front, and of the street, if any, at the rear of such building, the level of the foundation, and the lowest floor of such building, and of any yard or ground belonging thereto;

(c) the drainage of such building and of the intended size, depth, and inclination of such drain."

I submit that if this information is given, it will be ample for all practical purposes: it will enable the Commissioners to exercise sufficient control over buildings, and it will be unnecessary to give the further power of approval or disapproval of the site. As far as I have been able to look into the English Acts on the subject, the limitations apply to sites falling within proposed streets and over sewers. These are the sites which are principally referred to in the English Statutes: the rest of the regulations are entirely as regards the nature of the buildings, the thickness of the walls, the open spaces to be left, and so forth. In the Bombay Bill section 340 provides as follows:—

"Every person who shall intend—

(a) to make any addition to a building; or

(b) to make any alteration or repairs to a building, not being a frame-building, involving the removal or re-erection of any external or party-wall thereof or of any wall which supports the roof thereof, to an extent exceeding one-half of such wall above the ground level, such half to be measured in superficial feet; or

(c) to make any alteration or repairs to a frame-building, involving the removal or re-erection of more than one-half of the posts in any such wall thereof as aforesaid, such half to be measured in superficial feet; or

(d) to remove or reconstruct any portion of a building abutting on a street which stands within the regular line of such street;

shall give to the Commissioner, in a form obtained for this purpose under section 342, notice of his said intention, specifying the position of the building in which such work is to be executed and the nature and extent of the intended work."

The other sections of the Bombay Bill refer to the foundations and so forth, and I do not think they touch the point we are now discussing. The provisions in the Bombay Bill are very different from the sections in the Bill before the Council. They limit the power to sites which have not been built upon at all, and the first limitation is that where there is to be a new street it must be levelled and paved, and the opening of a new street may be dispensed with by the consent of the Standing Committee, so that in Bombay power has been given to the Corporation to control the discretion of the Municipal Commissioners. Here nothing of the kind is proposed. With every deference to the hon. member in charge of the Bill, I say that no controlling power is here given to the Corporation. I am fully aware that under the general supervising power of the Corporation over the proceedings of the Chairman, a motion may be brought forward in any particular case, and that the matter may be discussed. But that is a totally different thing: it is quite a different thing from first giving a power to refuse, and then leaving the aggrieved person liberty to have the matter brought forward by a Commissioner. The two things are totally different to my mind. As I have said, in Bombay there are the two things which the Bill provides regarding the approval of building sites; and as regards new streets, if there is to be one, it must be metalled and channelled: if there is to be no street, the matter is to be placed before the Standing Committee, and with their consent approval may be given. That is very different from the power to be taken here, for section 135 provides that until the approval of the site is signified in writing, the house shall not be constructed, so that I am quite correct in stating that in the case I have put the executive officers will be perfectly justified in refusing to grant permission. How then is the individual to utilise his land? Is he to wait till the whole of the 3 bighas has been sold, and a private street has been opened out before he can get permission to build? That is certainly not equitable. The memorialists say in the memorial presented to your Honour:—

"The building regulations (sections 235, 236, 237, 238, 241, 242, 243, and 244) invest the Corporation with preliminary powers, to refuse or to permit the erection of buildings. These sections are an unheard of innovation in the law of the land, and while they without fail to be a source of oppression to the people, they will, it is feared, lead to the depreciation of the value of land in Calcutta, and open a wide door to corruption."

I am quite prepared to support that statement, and I would add that if the building regulations are passed in the form in which they have been presented to the Council, they will open a wide door to corruption so far as the subordinate officers of the Corporation are concerned; and furthermore if the requirements are not modified in the way proposed there will be also this difficulty, that it will be impossible for a person to get sanction in less than six months. He must first get the site approved, then the position and the nature of the building must be approved, then all the materials must be approved. Before all this can be done, it seems to me that at least six months will elapse before a person will be able to obtain the sanction of the Commissioners. After having the site approved he has to submit plans and sections of every floor of the intended building, which shall show the position, form, and dimensions of the several parts of such building and of every water-closet, privy, urinal, cesspool, well, and other appurtenance; and in the case of a building intended as a dwelling-house for two or more families, or for carrying on any trade or business in which a number of people exceeding twenty may be employed, or as a public resort, the means of ingress and egress; he has also to give a description of the materials of which the building is to be constructed, of the thickness of the walls and roof, and of the intended mode of drainage, the means of water-supply, and means of ventilation; and if the building is to adjoin or abut on a street, the intended means of access from such street. To satisfy the Commissioners as to all these particulars must take a long time. As to the materials, the man may get his lime and his sand and the officer might not approve of them; he will have to pay for them, and yet he cannot make use of them. All these things in my opinion are not necessary in order to exercise proper supervision over the building. I do not think the Commissioners have anything to do with the internal arrangements of the house. I think it will be sufficient if control is exercised as to the level and the drainage of the intersected house and its position with reference to any street

and that the privy and cesspool are in a suitable place. A person may be building a house for his own residence, but he might fall into difficulties and wish to let it out to others. It will therefore be impossible for him to say whether it is to be a dwelling for two or more families, and the like. Well, having obtained all this information, the Commissioners may disapprove of the building for any of the following reasons: that it will be unsafe; that it encroaches on or over municipal land; or that its construction contravenes some specified provision of the Act or some specified bye-law made under the Act; and then the building shall not be proceeded with till such modifications have been made as will satisfy the requirements of the Commissioners. In place of these several provisions, I have read to the Council the provisions I propose. The second section which I propose runs as follows:—

"Within thirty days after receiving such notice as is mentioned in the last preceding section, the Commissioners shall see whether the proposed buildings are in accordance with such bye-laws as may be prescribed in this behalf. And if they are so, shall signify their approval of the proposed buildings; and if they are not, they shall, within a like period, point out such modification as to them may seem desirable."

The advantage of what I propose will be this. The Commissioners in meeting have first to pass certain bye-laws, and before they can be operative they must have the sanction of the Local Government. There will be the safeguard, first, of the Commissioners in meeting, deciding, and then the approval by the Local Government of the proposed bye-laws. Whereas if these regulations are provided in the Act in the manner proposed, there will be great difficulty in the way of persons building on their own land. I do not think the object of legislation should be to depreciate the value of land in Calcutta. The value of land now is very high, and that means the prosperity of the town and a high assessment by the Commissioners. But if there is any doubt whether sanction will be given to building on any particular land, the value of land will decrease, and that is certainly not desirable. The policy of the sections in the Bill seems to be to punish persons who have purchased lands, and not the person who has received the purchase-money. If, on the other hand, the hon. member in charge had proposed sections to prevent persons selling land in such a way as to place the purchaser in the awkward position of being unable to utilise it for building purposes, I could understand it. I pointed this out in Select Committee repeatedly, but I was not able to convince the Committee that that was the right position to assume in respect of this matter.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison said:—This matter is one of considerable difficulty and importance, and I would ask the Council to give it their best attention, and not to start with any prejudiced idea that the sections in the Bill are unnecessarily embarrassing or harsh. I will first remind the Council that we have to consider the suitability of the procedure proposed in the Bill as compared with the alternative procedure now proposed. It is useless for the hon. member to refer to the law in Bombay or in England, unless he is ready to move its adoption. In Calcutta the procedure is for the Executive as representing the Commissioners to act in the first instance, but they are under the control of the Commissioners at every stage. In Bombay, the Commissioner, who is the executive officer, is not under the control of the Corporation, except in matters in which it is definitely prescribed in the law that he shall be so. But after allowing for this difference of system, I believe there is no substantial difference between the procedure in this Bill and that at Bombay. The question is, can the procedure in the Bill be improved without materially affecting its efficiency? If that can in any way be done, I shall be glad to adopt any such proposals. But we must not lose sight of the circumstances under which the question comes before the Council. The Select Committee gave their special attention to the question as to sites for building, because Dr. Simpson, the Health Officer of the Corporation, stated that the health of the town and the possibility of its conservancy were seriously jeopardised by the way in which houses are now built, so as to make straight and wide streets impossible; and two of the public bodies in the town also drew special attention to the question. The Trades' Association writes:—

Section 195. This section, which deals with the laying out of new streets, appears to be susceptible of improvement. It requires that the level and width of every new street

shall be fixed or approved by the Commissioners, but it should also, the Committee consider, fix their minimum width, which should not, in the case of main streets, be less than 36 feet. As regards bustee lanes and back bustee lanes, their width should not be less than 12 and 9 feet, respectively, from eaves to eaves. It is in the opinion of the Committee, of the utmost importance, in view of the facts contained in Mr. H. J. S. Cotton's note on Raja Bagan Bustee, that the new Act should deal with this subject in a thorough manner. Mr. Cotton but represents the feelings of the public when he states that 'the superabundance of narrow lanes in the respectable inhabited portions of this city is an intolerable nuisance,' and the Committee of the Association are convinced that there will be no abatement of the nuisance until the Commissioners are vested with the necessary powers for dealing with it."

The Health Society similarly writes:—

"The insertion of four new sections is recommended after section 196 of the Bill. While on this subject the Secretary would invite the special attention of His Honour's Government to the remarks made by the Health Officer to the Corporation, Dr. W. J. Simpson, at pages 24 to 27, both inclusive, of his Annual Report for the year 1886, on the need of building regulations in this city. It would also draw special attention to a valuable memorandum on Raja Bagan Bustee, which was drawn up by the late Officiating Chairman, Mr. H. J. S. Cotton, and to the Proceedings of the Fourth Meeting of the Special Committee appointed by the Corporation to consider the amended Bill. The Council would only add that they are in complete accord with the views of the late Officiating Chairman and of Dr. Simpson; and they would urge, for the reasons which appear in the documents referred to, that building regulations applicable to both houses and huts should be embodied in the new Act."

With these recommendations before us, together with the special remarks of Dr. Simpson, we did what reasonable men would do who are convinced by the force of the arguments urged upon them. One of the most serious evils in Calcutta is the way in which new suburbs spring up and houses are built in the most chaotic manner so as to render conservancy impossible, and therefore it became incumbent on me to devise some means of regulating their construction in future. After full consideration I thought the form of dealing with the subject which this Bill proposes the best, namely, to give the Corporation the fullest control over the sites in the first instance, inasmuch as it will be impossible to provide an adequate remedy afterwards except at an enormous cost. If we can devise any means of making the person who sells land in building lots responsible in respect of the proper laying out of streets, I would be entirely in accord with my hon. friend; but I can see no way to do it. Suppose it was proposed that no person shall be allowed to sell his land in building lots until he satisfies the Commissioners that he has made proper provision for the opening of streets and the like. That a person is not to be allowed to sell his land without stating the purpose to which the land is to be applied; that the sale is to be invalidated unless the object is declared, and unless the Corporation is satisfied that these evils will not occur, would that be tolerated? I see no other way of doing it. If the hon. member can draft a better procedure, he should do so. Either you must leave the evils uncured, or you must have some such provisions as those contained in the Bill. It is impossible to intervene between the vendor and the purchaser at an earlier stage. We cannot take action until the use to which the land will be put is declared. It is unfortunate, no doubt, that an innocent purchaser should be the person who suffers, but we cannot put in our oar until it comes to the point of some one saying, I want to build on that land.

Now let me describe the procedure, and ask the Council to say whether it is harsh or dilatory. My hon. friend's proposal is that the site should be indicated and certain details given in all cases, whether the building is to be an addition to an existing house, or a new house; and further he proposes that within thirty days after receiving the notice, the Commissioners are to see whether the proposed buildings are in accordance with the bye-laws. Is it not obvious that that procedure does not meet the difficulty? If the Commissioners do pass bye-laws, how will it be better for the person? Would the bye-laws not say that the mode of access to the house must be shown, and the way in which it would be a mode of access to other houses in the neighbourhood so as to form a continuous street? If the bye-laws shirk this, then they will be of no use at all. The sections in the Bill have been specially drafted with a view to give the minimum of trouble. We avoid the hardship of going through the same forms in the case of an addition to an existing building, which may be only a godown or a coach-house, or stables, or some minor alteration. We do not make the question of site apply

unless to a new house. In such cases the person has only to send in a very brief summary of what he proposes to do, in a printed form, to be prescribed by the Commissioners. Great value attaches to the use of a printed form. If people are allowed to send in the information according to their own ideas, they are most likely to put in things which are not wanted, and to leave out information which is essential; so we require that a printed form, to be supplied by the Commissioners free of charge, shall be used. Then a uniform scale is prescribed, because in that case you can file all these plans street by street, and can make out a complete plan of the whole street. These provisions require very little indeed; they comprise the information which is always required in ordinary cases. But if a new house is to be built, then the person must get sanction to the site, and the Commissioners may ask for information on a vast number of points copied from the Bombay Bill. But we have an alternative procedure. Applications for buildings of a simple kind can be passed without difficulty and in a short time; but if it is a large building of two or three stories which it is very desirable to watch and supervise properly, then a great deal more information is necessary. There is, however, nothing to prevent the builder sending all the requisite information at once—the plan of the site and the further information regarding the building in one and the same application, and of necessity there is nothing to prevent the whole being carried through in a fortnight without difficulty, because, though the Commissioners have a right to thirty days' time for the approval of the site and thirty days to give sanction for the building—not six months as the hon. member apprehends—if the proposed construction is put into the hands of a proper builder under circumstances which raise no difficulty, there is nothing to prevent the whole thing being passed in a week.

As regards the provisions relating to the site, they have been made as lenient as possible. All that is wanted is that the house shall not be built in such a way as to make it impossible to make it fit in with any proper street. If there is any existing public street leading to it, it must be shown. If there is no public street, but there is a projected public street in the locality in which new buildings are springing up, then the position of the site with reference to such street must be shown. If there is no public street either existing or projected, then the position with reference to an existing private street or projected private street must be given; and lastly, suppose no provision can be made for any such street, then for special reasons the Commissioners may accord sanction without reference to any street, public or private. The objection that it will lead to corruption and abuse of authority is an objection that may be taken to any Municipal Bill, but in framing a law we are bound to assume that the power will be exercised in a fair and reasonable manner, and there is moreover a special safeguard, inasmuch as the Executive are at every stage subject to the control of the Commissioners. Any person aggrieved can go to any Commissioner or to the ward Commissioner, and draw his attention to any proceeding of the Executive, and have the matter investigated by the General Committee or the Commissioners in meeting; and if anything unreasonable or harsh has been attempted, he can get it set aside. My hon. friend has argued as if these regulations are particularly harsh or at least stringent, and as if they might easily be relaxed without inconvenience. In Select Committee we were precisely of the opposite opinion. The Health Officer at every stage insisted that we were doing nothing; that the law would not be nearly sufficient; that we were leaving everything to the discretion of the Commissioners and to the bye-laws, and were not providing proper safeguards by legislative enactment. This was uniformly the burden of the position he took up before the Select Committee. We felt that what we were doing was the minimum; we were perfectly alive to the contention of my hon. friend that India was very different from England. We refused to introduce a number of provisions that are to be found in the Bombay Bill, although we were pressed by Dr. Simpson to insert them, because we felt that we had not sufficient knowledge of the circumstances of Indian life to justify the enactment of hard-and-fast rules of that kind. After all I am satisfied that in this Bill very little has been put in; we have put in the minimum of what seemed absolutely necessary; and unless this control over building sites is given, it will be impossible to prevent in future those evils which now exist, namely, the evil of persons

building houses as they choose without reference to any regular street or to the other requirements of sanitation. My hon. friend has referred to the case of a person buying for building purposes a plot of 3 cottahs out of a piece of land 3 bighas in extent. That is just one of those instances of the idea which prevails in Calcutta that the interests of the community must be sacrificed to the convenience of the individual; that to avoid hardship to an individual, the community must suffer; and it is extremely difficult to induce the people to understand that the individual should be placed under restrictions, having regard to the interests of the community in general. When a man is about to purchase a piece of land, he ought to bear in mind, in the first instance, that he should build upon it in a way that will enable houses in the neighbourhood to spring up in regular lines of streets. That is a most necessary discipline, and unless we are prepared to make people learn that the individual must so manage his own affairs that they shall be consistent with the well-being of those around him, we shall not have made any step in advance. Therefore, as regards the general principle of these sections, I submit that they are preferable to the provisions proposed by my hon. friend. He gives no control whatever over building sites and buildings except through bye-laws to be hereafter made by the Commissioners. Till such bye-laws are made, and when made if they are not as stringent as the provisions of this Bill, there will be no power to prevent the overcrowding of buildings without reference to the requirements of sanitation. The provisions he proposes lay down one hard-and-fast rule applying to the case of a small addition to a house and to a very large new building. The Bill makes a clear distinction between the two cases, and seems more convenient in this respect. There are one or two other matters to which I desire to refer, but they have reference more particularly to subsequent amendments on the list.

The HON. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said:—There is one matter which I think should be pointed out. The section provides that the position of the house must be given with reference to certain streets. It says that the Commissioners shall either signify their approval of the site, or for reasons recorded their disapproval thereof as not being a proper site with reference to the street shown in the plan. That leaves it entirely to the caprice of the Commissioners as to what is a proper site. I can understand a rule which states that a building must be so many feet from a street. A. says:—I propose this site. The Commissioners say, we do not think that a proper site. Having given no proper test of judging what is a proper site, it rests with the Commissioners to say what is or is not a proper site. I consider that such an extensive power which might be exercised arbitrarily should not be given. My hon. friend in charge of the Bill says, if you object to the provision in the Bill, draw a better one. It may be that another person may not be able to draw a better provision on the lines of the section; but I say that that is no argument at all. In section 238 special reasons are given which shall justify refusal in respect of a building; that it will be unsafe; that it encroaches upon municipal land, or that its construction contravenes some specified provision of this Act. Three special reasons are given upon which the Commissioners may refuse their approval of a building. Unless those who have thought about it are able to suggest some appropriate way of providing a test which will justify the Commissioners in disapproving of a proposed site, I shall not be able to give my assent to section 235. If the Commissioners say a site is not proper, the individual is completely without remedy.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—I should be glad to see a provision introduced such as my hon. and learned friend the Advocate-General suggests, but I think it will be very inconvenient to lay down any hard-and-fast rule. The tribunal which is to judge will be a most lenient one, and there will be infinitely more danger of too much leniency than over-stringency. First, the Engineer will approve, then it will come before the Chairman, and then it may be taken before the Town Council and the Commissioners in meeting; and these will be found to be the easiest tribunals possible. Whereas if the distance from a street is fixed at 10 or 20 feet, it may be found not to work at all. The object is to make it possible to get some street in, so that it may be a proper site with reference to such street and the adjacent buildings. The Commis-

sioners will be bound to show that it is not a proper site with reference to some existing or projected street or to the adjacent buildings. Can we go further than that without leading to harshness and inconvenience?

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—My hon. friend has asked what alternative proposal I would make in order to have proper regulations on the subject. The answer is quite evident. If the sections which were discussed on the last occasion regarding the laying out of new private streets are properly worked, cases such as those of Rajah Bagan and Sukea's Bagan could never have happened. The parties opened out several streets before the buildings were erected, and if the owner was prosecuted for doing so without sanction, the mischief would have ended; but that was not done, and those narrow and irregular streets were allowed to be opened. Then applications came for building, and as under the existing law there was no power to refuse, the buildings were sanctioned. But had there been a power to frame bye-laws in regard to buildings, with power to the Commissioners to refuse sanction to buildings not in accordance with such bye-laws, the remedy would have been at once found. That is a complete answer to the challenge of my hon. friend. Then he said that if these sections are not passed, the difficulty will only be postponed. I submit not. The circumstances of the country have to be taken into consideration. The Health Officer to the Corporation is no doubt a very competent officer, but he has no experience of this country. He comes fresh from England with English notions, and he naturally wishes all the provisions of the English Statutes to be introduced here; but it seems to those who live here that the provisions of the model bye-laws in England are not suitable to the manners and customs of the people here. Therefore it will be best to leave the framing of bye-laws to the Commissioners, and as they will require the sanction of the Local Government, the objection of my hon. friend will be minimised. So far as I have been able to gather, the English provisions have reference to buildings falling within certain streets or projected streets or constructed over sewers. I again submit that if the matter is left in the way I propose it will serve the purpose, more specially if proper attention is paid to the provision referring to private streets, and a prosecution instituted for its infringement. Reference has been made to what was urged by the late Officiating Chairman regarding Rajah Bagan. That is precisely one of the cases to which I referred when I addressed the Council before. A man purchased a large tract of land and resold it in small lots after leaving out certain passages. The Commissioners took no exception to the opening out of those streets without sanction; the purchasers of the building lots then applied for permission to build, and there being no power of refusal, sanction was given. The buildings were raised; the streets or passages were narrow and tortuous, and necessarily the place was reduced to a very insanitary condition. It would have been unfair to visit with punishment the purchasers of the building lots by refusing them permission to build: the person who should have been attacked was the man who sold his land in small building lots without making provision for the opening out of proper streets, and this could have been done under the existing law. I therefore submit that there will be no difficulty in working the provisions which I propose.

The motion to omit section 235 was put to the vote and negatived.

The motion to substitute the following for section 236 was also put to the vote and negatived:—

"Before beginning to build any new house, or to rebuild or materially alter the structure of any house, the person intending so to do shall give to the Commissioners notice thereof in writing, and shall accompany such notice with a plan of the site and the proposed buildings drawn to the scale of not less than one inch to every eight feet, showing the following particulars:—

(a) the position, form and dimensions of the several parts of such building, and of every water-closet, privy, urinal, cesspool, well and other appurtenances;

(b) the width and level of the street, if any, in front, and of the street if any, at the rear of such building, the level of the foundation, and the lowest floor of such building, and of any yard or ground belonging thereto;

(c) the drainage of such building and of the intended size, depth, and inclination of such drain."

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER's motion to omit section 237 was also put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER's motion to substitute the following for section 238 was also put to the vote and negatived :—

"Within thirty days after receiving such notice as is mentioned in the last preceding section, the Commissioners shall see whether the proposed buildings are in accordance with such bye-laws as may be prescribed in this behalf. And if they are so shall signify their approval of the proposed buildings; and if they are not, they shall, within a like period, point out such modification as to them may seem desirable."

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER's motion to omit section 239 was also put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER, by leave, withdrew the following motions of which notice had been given :—

(1). That section 240 be omitted.

(2). That for section 241 the following be substitued :—

"If any building or alteration, such as is referred to in section two hundred and thirty-six, be commenced without the notice and plan required by that section being sent to the Commissioners, or before the expiration of the thirty days, or at any levels different from those fixed by the Commissioners within the said thirty days, or in contravention of any lawful orders issued by the Commissioners under section two hundred and thirty-eight, the Commissioners may cause such work as has been done to be demolished or altered in such manner as they may think fit, and the expenses thereby incurred shall be paid by the person failing to comply with the requirements of the Act."

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, after the fourth paragraph of section 235, the following new proviso be inserted :—

"Provided that where any site is disapproved by reason of its falling wholly or in part within the lines of any projected public street, the owner of such site shall be entitled to reasonable compensation if the site or the portion thereof that falls within such lines be not acquired by the Commissioners in meeting under section two hundred and four of this Act within one year after the date of such disapproval."

He said :—Under the existing law the Commissioners have power to refuse sanction for a building if they disapprove the levels and foundation or it is otherwise contrary to the provisions of the Act; but they have no power to disapprove the site. Section 235 gives this additional power of disapproving of a site altogether for building purposes. Whether this large power should be given to the Commissioners or not is a question with which my present amendment has nothing to do. Conceding, however, that this power ought to be given, yet seeing that the exercise of it involves serious interference with private property, it seems desirable that the grounds of the exercise of this power should be narrowly examined, and that care should be taken to guard against any possible hardship or injustice in any case. Now referring to section 235, you will observe in lines 6 and 7 of paragraph 4 that amongst the grounds on which the Commissioners may disapprove any particular site is this, viz., the fact of the proposed site falling wholly or in part within the lines of any projected street. If the Commissioners find, on examining the plan, that the applicant proposes to build on land which falls within the line of any projected street, not an actual street, they may disapprove the site. The Commissioners under section 208 are authorised from time to time to prepare plans of proposed public streets, and it may happen that the Commissioners may anticipate the work of years and propose plans which are not likely to be carried out in the course of one or two years, but may take 10 or 20 years to complete. They may disapprove a site for building purposes which they may find they will have shortly to acquire for a public street, and which will cost much more money to acquire if built upon. In the interests of the Municipality there may not be anything very inequitable if they do so. That is the Corporation's side of the question. But it is necessary also to examine the rate-payers' side of the question. Where land is acquired or is about to be acquired the rate-payer loses nothing, for he gets the value of the land, and he may buy other land to build upon. Where, however, the site is disapproved because it is likely to be taken up by some projected street, and it is not likely the projected street will become a reality until 10 or 20 years, it is hardly fair to deprive the owner of

the legitimate use of the land without paying him compensation. Under the Land-Acquisition Act, if the land is acquired, he will be entitled only to the value of the land: it does not provide any compensation for any interdict laid upon the owner prohibiting the use of the land until it is acquired. It is therefore, I submit, very necessary in the interests of the public to prescribe some limit of time within which the land should be acquired. My amendment allows a whole year's time to the Municipality. If they do not acquire the land within a year, then only will they have to pay compensation.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—This is not an unreasonable proposal, and I cannot say I think it necessary strongly to oppose it. But there is some disadvantage from a public point of view; and the question for consideration is the balance of advantages and disadvantages. The disadvantage from the public point of view is that it puts a somewhat unfair pressure on the Commissioners to anticipate action which may be reasonable. Suppose the neighbourhood of some street running in a certain direction becomes a building neighbourhood, the Commissioners mark the continuation of the street as the line of the new projected street. This is quite evidently the line the street ought to follow as soon as buildings spring up in the neighbourhood. Suppose some one proposes to build on a portion of the line of that street, which may be done for the purpose of forcing their hands, then the Commissioners may be compelled to take up the land and construct the street long before it is wanted, simply on account of the pressure put if the proposal to build is refused. On the other hand, I quite admit the hardship to the individual if he has no other place to build upon; but it may happen that although the line of street has been marked, there may be so much delay that the Commissioners may not be prepared to go on with the street within the year. I shall, however, raise no objection to the amendment if the Council think it a necessary act of justice.

The HON. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said:—There ought to be no power to undertake the making of a street unless there is a reasonable prospect of making the street within a reasonable time. Here the demand is for compensation if you do not allow the man to build. I think the proposed provision is a reasonable one.

The motion being put, the Council divided:—

Ayes 8.	*Noes* 5.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.	
The Hon. the Advocate-General.	
His Honour the President.	

So the Motion was carried.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that the last paragraph of section 235 be omitted.

He said:—In the earlier part of this section thirty days is the period within which the Commissioners must signify their approval or disapproval of the site, or pass any other order they may think fit. And thirty days is time enough for an efficient public body like the Calcutta Corporation to take proper action in the matter. But if the last paragraph of the section stands, it nullifies the operation of the first portion, and gives an unlimited time within which to pass orders. It is hardly fair to provide an indefinite prohibition.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—This is a matter of some difficulty, and I am free to say that the proposal of the hon. member is the identical one which I put before the Select Committee in the first instance. It is the general rule that unless disapproval is signified, approval is assumed, and that has been the rule hitherto in Calcutta. At the same time the Select Committee purposely put in the provision for reasons they considered sufficient. They considered it absolutely necessary that the builder should get approval. In such matters there is great room for manœuvring. In general a person who [illegible] to build on a site which there can be no objection will send in the

papers in the usual way and orders will easily be passed. But suppose he does not wish orders to be passed within thirty days, no doubt there are various means by which that can be manipulated; for instance, by sending in the papers a day or two before the Poojah vacation, and arranging that it should not be laid before the superior officers for that day or two, or by arranging with a subordinate that it shall lie in his desk, and be overlooked for a time, or last of all, by somehow evading receipt of the disapproval, because the receipt of the order of disapproval must be proved; consequently it is of the highest possible importance that approval should be obtained. If you make an order of approval necessary, it is more likely to be pushed on. On these grounds it seemed desirable that approval should be insisted on before beginning to build. There may be only two or three out of a hundred cases in which the proposal to build will by no possibility have sanction: and though the omission to pass orders within the prescribed time may happen in only a small percentage of cases, it is precisely in that small percentage of cases that the danger will happen. For these reasons the Select Committee thought it better to put in this provision.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE said in reply:—The hon. member in charge of the Bill has been pleased to point out that the necessity for inserting this paragraph of section 235 arises from the fact that the applicant may by manœuvring prevent the Municipality from taking up the matter within thirty days. That amounts almost to a confession, coming as it does from the Chairman of the Corporation, that the subordinate officers of the Municipality are amenable to such improper influences; if so, there is all the more reason why not only this paragraph of this section, but the whole of the building regulations should be done away with. Because just as there may be reason for the Municipality being taken advantage of by the action of their own officers, there is greater reason for the rate-payers being harassed by the action of these people. It becomes the Corporation to reform their own house before imposing building regulations for improving the houses of the ratepayers. I submit that what has been stated is no reason why we should have such a clause to the prejudice of the people. If its omission operates to the prejudice of the Corporation, the Corporation can take care of itself.

The motion was put to the vote and negatived.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, for the first eight lines of section 237, the following be substituted:—

"On receipt of such notice, the Commissioners shall, within thirty days, by a written order, either sanction the building of the new house, or for any one or more of the reasons set forth at the next succeeding section, disallow it, or call for further information on all or any of the following details."

He said:—This is not intended to alter the sense. The alteration was suggested by the Secretary. Section 237 is identical with a certain portion of section 235, and the Secretary asks me to move this amendment, so that the wording of section 237 may be in accordance with the wording of section 235.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON moved that, in the last paragraph of section 237, for the words "competent surveyor" the words "competent builder or surveyor" be substituted.

He said:—This is a mere verbal alteration.

The motion was put to the vote and carried.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that section 242 be omitted.

He said:—The Commissioners have the power of demolition, and that is sufficient. To prosecute a man after demolishing his house is a heavier punishment than is necessary. The demolition of the building would be at the man's expense, and it is not necessary that the man should be further punished.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—Generally the Commissioners exercise the ordinary power of rectifying what has been done wrong; but there are some cases in which special *mala fides* are shown, and in such cases the man should be prosecuted. It is quite in accordance with the spirit of the Building Act, and has been acted upon in at least half a dozen cases.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said :—The last part of the section is very important; you prosecute him and compel him to demolish the building at his own expense.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply :—The effect of the section is very different from what the hon. member in charge of the Bill describes it to be. I am not aware that under the existing law the power is precisely the same. It does seem to me to be a very harsh proceeding.

The motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 3	*Noes* 10.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	The Hon. the Advocate-General.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. DR. GOOROO DASS BANERJEE moved that, in lines 1 and 2 of section 242, the words "in addition to or" be omitted.

He said :—Section 242 prescribes a penalty for building contrary to the orders of the Commissioners in addition to the demolition of the building under the preceding section. It is clear that the Commissioners do not require both these powers. It is not necessary to demolish a building, and at the same time to prosecute the person for contravening the orders of the Commissioners. If the object of the prohibition has been attained, there should be no further punishment. The object will be fully gained, if we leave out the words "in addition to or."

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said :—I have no objection to the motion, except that it is wrong in principle. I think there may be cases in which the Commissioners should have an alternative procedure. This is a power which will be exercised very rarely, but in some cases it ought to be exercised, though it is of no great practical importance.

The HON. THE ADVOCATE-GENERAL said :—I also think the principle wrong for which the hon. mover of this amendment contends. If a man constructs a building illegally, the proper remedy is to pull it down, and to prosecute the offender. I think both the remedies should exist, and not one substituted for the other.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said :—The offence is the building of a house without sending a ground plan and giving the notice required, and the punishment is a fine of Rs. 100 with a further fine of Rs. 20 for every day during which the offence is continued after conviction. Which part of the operation constitutes the offence? Is the penalty for every day during which he does not send in the building plan or during which he goes on with the building?

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said :—Under the existing law the provision regarding the erection of huts is exactly the same. The Commissioners may pull down the hut, and the person who erects it contrary to the law is liable to a daily fine until the hut is removed. In the present case the penalty is a fine for every day the building is kept on.

The motion being put, the Council divided :—

Ayes 3.	*Noes* 10.
The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee.	The Hon. H. Pratt.
The Hon. Dr. Mahendra Lal Sircar.	The Hon. C. H. Moore.
The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter.	The Hon. Moulvie Abdul Jubbar.
	The Hon. Sir Alfred Croft.
	The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison.
	The Hon. T. T. Allen.
	The Hon. C. P. L. Macaulay.
	The Hon. H. J. Reynolds.
	The Hon. the Advocate-General.
	His Honour the President.

So the Motion was negatived.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER, by leave, withdrew the motion, of which notice had been given, for the omission of section 243.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER moved that, for section 244, the following be substituted :—

"If the Commissioners fail to pass orders within thirty days, as required by section two hundred and thirty-eight, the person giving such notice may, notwithstanding anything hereinbefore contained, proceed to build or rebuild the house therein referred to according to such plan."

He said :—Here my hon. friend's favourite legislation fails him. In the Bombay Bill the provision is precisely the same as in this amendment of mine. The section there is—

"If within thirty days after receipt of any notice under section 335 or 340, or of the plan, section, description or further information, if any, called for under section 336, 338 or 341 as the case may be, the Commissioner fails to intimate in writing to the person who has given the said notice, his disapproval of the building which the said person proposes to erect, or of the work which he proposes to execute;

or if, within the said period, the Commissioner signifies in writing to the said person, his approval of the said building or work;

the said person may at any time within one year from the date of the delivery of the notice to the Commissioner, proceed with the said building or work in accordance with his intention as described in the notice or in any of the documents aforesaid, but not so as to contravene any of the provisions of this Act or any bye-law made under this Act at the time in force."

An individual who wants to build complies with everything which the law requires, and if then the Commissioners fail to give sanction, under the present Bill the Commissioners must pay compensation. This is no satisfaction to the individual. He wants to build, and if the Commissioners do not give sanction within the time prescribed, he should be entitled to build. That is the law here and in the Bombay Bill, and why should there be any departure from that principle? My hon friend said in reference to another amendment that it was a matter of great importance as to whether a person should build or not. A man gives notice that he wants to build, and if the Commissioners do not do their duty they are to blame, but the man should not suffer. I submit that the man should be entitled to build if within the time the Commissioners give him no answer.

The HON. SIR HENRY HARRISON said:—In voting on this amendment some care is necessary, because a part of it covers ground which has already been rejected. The section comprises three cases Section 235 respecting sites, section 237 regarding buildings, and section 238 which refers to the demolition of buildings. With regard to the site, the view of the Select Committee was upheld that assent to a site is necessary, but as your Honour remarked, what applies to a site might not apply to a building. That is a distinction which may be drawn. The English law, the existing law here, and the Bombay law make the same provision in all cases, and my proposal in the Select Committee was made accordingly; but the Select Committee saw the danger, and introduced the very strict rule that as far as the site is concerned approval must be obtained. But as regards the building, I think there will be less danger. In cases in which no site is in question, or where the site has been sanctioned, and the objection is only as to the details of the building, there will be no harm done. The only question is whether any compensation is necessary with reference to the site. If we accept the remedy as regards the building, there will be no remedy as regards the site. If we say that consent should be assumed as regards the building, we shall have no remedy as to the site.

The HON. BABU KALI NATH MITTER said in reply:—As regards the site, that has been already disposed of. The section provides that until the site is sanctioned in writing, the house shall not be constructed. The reference in my amendment can only apply to buildings, because as regards the site that has been discussed and settled. It will not be necessary to refer to section 235 in this section because that has already been passed.

HIS HONOUR THE PRESIDENT said:—We have already passed the last paragraph of section 235, that until the approval of the site in writing, the house shall

not be constructed. The next step is that when the site is settled the Commissioners ask for plans and details of the house. Section 244, providing compensation if the Commissioners fail to pass orders, applies to both the site and the building. The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee's amendment applies only to the building. I think when you have secured the requirements as to the site, the question in regard to the building is one of very much less importance; and if the Commissioners fail to pass orders within thirty days, the assumption should be against them, and the man should be allowed to proceed with his building. I think that not altogether unreasonable. But the hon. member in charge of the Bill thinks the wording of the section as it stands leaves open the whole question as to the delay the Commissioners may make as to passing orders in regard to the site. If the Commissioners do not pass the site within thirty days, the Bill provides a small penalty on them. But if you cut out section 244, you leave no penalty as to the site.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter said in reply:—My idea as to this compensation is that it will never work, and I think it is very objectionable. The Bill authorises the Commissioners to call for plans in respect of buildings, and they can take proper care with regard to their own officers.

The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee moved that, in the first paragraph of section 244, for the words "they shall pay to the person intending to build compensation for such delay at the rate of Re. 1 per diem for every day in excess of thirty days" the words "their approval shall be presumed" be substituted.

He said:—My amendment is practically identical with that of my hon. friend. I think we may have both the sections providing against delay as regards approval of the site, and also a section providing for presumption of assent in regard to the building.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter's amendment was put to the vote and carried.

The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee's motion was then, by leave, withdrawn.

The Hon. Dr. Gooroo Dass Banerjee also, by leave, withdrew the following motions of which notice had been given:—That, in the event of amendment No. (17) not being carried, in line 8 of the first paragraph of section 244, for the word and figure 'Re. 1' 'Rs. 5' be substituted; that in line 2 of the proviso of section 244, for the words and figures "Rs. 2, Rs. 5, Rs. 10, or Rs. 20," the words and figures "Rs. 10, Rs. 15, Rs. 20 or Rs. 25," respectively, be substituted.

The Hon. Sir Henry Harrison, by leave, withdrew the following amendment of which he had given notice:—

That, for the second paragraph of section 237, the following be substituted:—

"If further information is called for, no steps shall be taken to build the house until orders have been passed upon receipt of such information."

He said:—If the Commissioners call for further information, and no information is given, then the previous notice would be of no value at all.

The Hon. Babu Kali Nath Mitter moved that, for section 247, the following be substituted:—

"It shall not be lawful for any person to erect a hut or shed, or any range or block of huts or sheds, or to add to any hut or shed, or to any range or block already existing at the commencement of this Act without thirty days' previous notice to the Commissioners; and the Commissioners may, within thirty days of the receipt of such notice by them, require, in the case of a single hut or shed, that it be built in the manner approved of by them; and, in the case of a range or block of huts or sheds, that they be built so that they may stand in regular line with a free passage or way in front of and between any two lines of such width as they may think proper for ventilation, and to facilitate scavenging, and with such number of privies and with such means of drainage as to them may seem necessary, and of such a level as will admit of such drainage, and with a plinth at least two feet above the level of the nearest public street:

Provided that no hut or shed shall be built within twenty feet of a tank without the leave of the Commissioners."

He said:—I should very much like to shorten the discussion, because the arguments will be very much the same in all these cases; therefore it will save the time of the Council if I make one speech for all. My object is that the